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[SIXPENCE { WITH SUPPLEMENT GRATIS.

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

If we look at the map of Europe, and consider the present condition of the various states which compose what ought to be a grand confraternity of peaceful and united nations, we cannot but be struck with the instability which characterises them all. Amid that vast assemblage of communities, more or less civilised, more or less powerful and humane, there are but two whose institutions seem deeply rooted, whose thrones seem secure, and whose future fate betokens influence, splendour, and power over the rest of mankind. The one is England—a state ancient and free;—illustrious for deeds alike splendid in peace and in war; whose name, whose laws, and whose language pervade the fairest portions of the earth; whose flag is the hope of the oppressed; and in the permanency of whose dominion every nation, that either possesses or aspires to possess the commonest rights of free citizenship or self-government, is in the highest degree interested. The other state is in every respect its opposite. Three centuries ago unknown even by name to the civilisation of the West, it overshadows at the present day all Europe and Asia with the dark image of its rapacity and its ambition. The name of England is synonymous with that of rational liberty; the name of Russia, on the other hand, betokens absolute and irresponsible power. The one is civilisation; the other is barbarism. The one represents the dignity, the other the debasement, of humanity. The one represents mental, the other physical, power. And these two, so different, and of such hostile principles, hold between them the balances of lordship and dominion; and direct, as far as merely human agencies are allowed to direct, the present and the future fate of the Eastern hemisphere. America is beyond their reach, and stands aloof in the proud self-sufficiency and vigorous majesty of a race that feels itself pre-destined, in the fullness of time, to be greater and more resplendent than either of them.

All else in Europe is utterly unstable and insecure. The most ancient state seems as feeble and as effete as if the breath of a strong man could overthrow it. Austria is rotten to the core; and, were it not for the aid of Russia—dearly bought at the cost of humiliation and dependence—would crumble to pieces from its own heterogeneity, with as little power of cohesion as the dry bones in the Valley of Golgotha. That venerable state is worn out; and her motley populations, hating, and commonly not understanding each other, having no interest in common—no bond of blood, of language, or of sympathy—have not in them the vitality which could make them coalesce or unite in the simplest effort to govern themselves. Germany is a name, but not a power on the earth. Her very boundaries are undefined, and her pretensions to independence and the right to exist are by-words of scorn to the most powerful potentates who speak her language and move upon her soil. Prussia, with all her bayonets, is a creature of yesterday—an interloper into a place that was already full; and, at the first breath of dissension in Europe, would lose her identity, and merge into an Empire, not of Prussians, but of Germans. Italy is nothing but a name: the victim of the stranger and the oppressor, she scarcely dares to hope, and lingers on in impatient humiliation; never forgetting that she was once the glory, and remembering, with a burning blush, that she is now the shame, of Europe. The other Monarchies whose places are marked on the map are Monarchies shorn of their ancient power. They are but shadows of what they once were, and live upon the memories of their own departed greatness. Belgium, Holland, Denmark, and Sweden possess few traces of their ancient renown; their history is that of the past, and they exercise no influence over the fortunes of to-day. Spain, once a first-rate, has dwindled into a seventh-rate power; and Portugal is almost of as little note and consequence as the Isle of Man. Turkey exists but upon sufferance. She troubles the waters where her wolfish neighbours make it their pleasure to drink, casts her

imploring eyes to heaven, and submissively awaits the inevitable catastrophe of her extinction.

Russia in the east and England in the west are thus the sole representatives of the stability of empire, as well as of the great principles which since the world began have agitated the bosom of society. The keen eye of Napoleon the Great foresaw the struggle that sooner or later these powers would be compelled to wage against each other. Their antagonism is inherent, and not accidental; and would exist of necessity, were there no questions of religion, of commerce, or of territorial aggrandisement and dynastic influence to complicate and exasperate it. The sagacity of Napoleon was so far at fault that he imagined France, and not England, to be the fitting representative of the great principle of the dignity of humanity and of resistance to arbitrary power. His nephew and successor, as thorough a representative of ultra-despotism as the Czar himself—and, possibly, still more so, for he founds his tyranny on the consent and suffrage of the ignorant and blinded people—governs the only other country in Europe that possesses even the semblance of power, apparently unconscious of the fact that France is unstable as water under her present régime, and that she has no friend in the world unless she make a friend of England. He has somewhat inexpertly been endeavouring to play the arbiter betwixt the two great rival states of the West and the East, and for the sake of a miserable autograph, and a little judicious homage to his personal vanity, he has been striving hard to sap the foundations of his own throne. Whatever, in the pride of apparent success, he may think of the durability of his dominion, its only possible guarantees are the good sense and the material interests of the brave and intelligent French people. States and dynasties may totter and decay, but a nation like the French is ever vigorous and young, and in the day of fate and necessity will vindicate its own majesty, in spite of its rulers, whosoever they may happen to be, and assume its own place



CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLES.—ALEXANDRIA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

in the councils of the world. If Louis Napoleon desire stability for his Empire, he must learn to extend by degrees the bases of the popular rights which he has hitherto denied, ignored, or taken away. He must learn to know who are the natural allies of his countrymen, and what states they are whose aid would be destruction to him. In the commotions that are preparing in Europe, and of which we see all around us the signs and the portents, the true place of France is on the side of freedom. Between Cossackism and Constitutionalism the instincts of France will lead her right, however much her temporary rulers may strive to lead her wrong; and in that struggle, should it ever come, the place of England will be in the vanguard of civilisation: and if states and dynasties oppose her, the populations, the races, and the nationalities of Europe will work with her, and bid her God speed. The star of her glory has not yet culminated. Like Toussaint L'Ouverture, she has "great allies," and "powers that work for her."

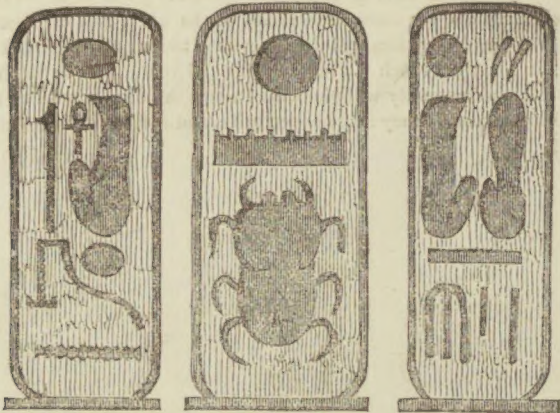
CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLES.

THIS celebrated pair of "Needles" (for the name is applied to the standing as well as to the prostrate obelisk at Alexandria) has excited considerable interest at various periods. They are placed about one mile outside the modern walls of Alexandria. Each obelisk is one vast block of red granite, measuring about 70 feet in length, and covered with hieroglyphics. The prostrate obelisk is the property of the English Government, having been presented to George IV. by Mehemet Ali, Pacha of Egypt, in 1820. It is partly imbedded in the sand, close to the sea-side, by the great wall of the fortifications. They are said to be two of four obelisks which formerly stood at Heliopolis, and were brought to Alexandria by the Caesars. The third is in the Piazza di Monte Citorio at Rome; while the fourth remains at Heliopolis, six miles distant from Cairo.

The late Sir R. Peel was of opinion "that this obelisk ought to be removed to this country, and erected as a memorial to Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and the other British soldiers who fought and fell in Egypt." The late Sir G. Murray also stated, "That he joined with all his military friends who desired that that obelisk should be removed to London. Its intrinsic value might not be great; but, as a monument and as a trophy, it possessed a value peculiarly its own."

In November last, the Earl of Derby consented to the removal of the obelisk, to be erected in the grounds of the Crystal Palace Company, at Sydenham, upon condition that the Government may hereafter reclaim it on payment of all expenses incurred in the transit. About a month since, Mr. Anderson, the managing director of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, and a director of the Crystal Palace Company, left England for Egypt, for the purpose of making arrangements for the transmission of the Needle from its present bed on the shores of the Mediterranean to the Park at Sydenham. Great difficulties have, however, presented themselves, in the way of the removal of this ancient memorial. The Needle is actually built into a part of the sea-wall and ramparts forming the fortification of the city of Alexandria; and to pull down so much of the fortification as would be required to disinter the obelisk and to launch it, and afterwards to rebuild the wall, would not only occupy a great space of time, but must involve a considerable amount of expense not originally anticipated. In addition to these circumstances, it is stated that the Viceroy himself has a very strong objection to a breach of such a nature being made or left open for any time, in the present state of European politics. With respect to procuring casts from ancient works of art in Egypt, which formed also one of the objects of Mr. Anderson's visit to Alexandria, that gentleman reports that he had an interview with the Viceroy of Egypt on the 5th of last month, and that the Pacha then kindly assured him that every facility should be afforded to any person commissioned by the company to collect copies of works in Egypt.

It will be thus seen that the fate of the obelisk has once more become matter of uncertainty. The accompanying illustration, from a sketch by Mr. A. H. Nicholl, shows the position of the two obelisks; and the subjoined figures are the signs of the Kings of Egypt engraved upon the prostrate obelisk—the "Needle" intended to be removed.



SIGNETS OF THE KINGS OF EGYPT ENGRAVED UPON "CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLES."

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

NEW DOCK AND VICTUALLING-YARD REGULATIONS.—A circular order of instructions for the guidance of the superintendents and other officers of her Majesty's naval yards in the selection of candidates for entry into dockyard service, and the promotion of those already employed under the Crown therein, has just been promulgated to the various naval establishments at home. These regulations may be summed up in few words:—No candidate for employment will be entered who is not qualified to perform the duties he seeks to be employed in. No recommendation other than that founded on the report of the Admiral or Captain Superintendent of Yards, after a rigid examination of the fitness of the candidate by a competent board, will be allowed to weigh in the claim of such candidate for entry. All these reports to the Admiralty are to pass through the hands of the Surveyor of the Navy. No person is to be promoted whose merits alone, coupled with long servitude, do not fully warrant the officers above him in recommending him for advancement.

LETTERS FOR THE ARCTIC SEAS.—Letters for any of the officers, seamen, and marines serving in any of the ships now in the Arctic Seas, will be forwarded by her Majesty's ship *Phœnix*, if sent to the Admiralty on or before the 14th of April.

GOOD SERVICE PENSIONS.—The pension of £300 per annum, which lapsed by the death of Sir T. Capel, G.C.B., has been conferred on Vice-Admiral Sir G. Seymour, C.B., K.C.H., on the West India station. And the pension of £150 per annum, which reverted by the promotion of Captain Boxer to Rear-Admiral, has been conferred on Captain M. Seymour, Commodore-superintendent, Devonport.

It is said that Captain the Earl of Hardwicke will supersede Captain Hutton in the command of the *Prince Regent*, 90, the latter having completed his sea-time for his flag, whereas the noble Earl has not.

The Duke of Wellington, 151, Captain H. B. Martin, C.B., is ordered to take in twelve months' stores for foreign service.

The Royal Albert, 131, screw steam-ship, is progressing rapidly at Woolwich, upwards of 200 men and boys being constantly employed upon her.

A FLEET OF ENGLISH VESSELS NEARLY WRECKED BY THE ICE.—Intelligence has been received of a large number of vessels having been placed in a most perilous position on the coast, near Cuxhaven, by the immense masses of ice which were being drifted out to sea from the several inland waters. Amongst the ships on shore were the *Elbe* steamer, *Older* and *Washington* frigates, the *Patric*, *John Spencer*, *Ocean*, *Baronet*, *Blossing*, *Jay*, *Effort*, *Galatée*, *Gen*, *Madrida*, and many others. The *Trident*, London and Hamburg steamer, was so much damaged as to put into Glückstadt, as also the *Jupiter*, Grimby and Hamburg steam-ship. The cold was most severe, snow was falling heavily, and the ice fast accumulating. Nothing like it had been seen on that part of the coast for some years.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE DUKE OF PADUA.

JEAN TOUSSAINT ARRIGHI, Duke of Padua, a distinguished soldier of the French Republic and the Empire, was the representative of an ancient noble Corsican family, which was related by blood to that of Bonaparte. Jean Toussaint Arrighi was born the 8th March, 1778, began his military career very early in life, and followed Joseph Bonaparte into Italy as a Sub-Lieutenant of the 72nd Brigade of the troops raised in Corsica. On the establishment of the Directory, Arrighi went as Secretary of Embassy to Parma and to Rome. When he returned, he was made Aide-de-camp to the famous General Berthier. Arrighi's brilliant conduct at the battle of Salachikoff obtained for him the rank of captain. Henceforward his rise was deservedly rapid. On all occasions of moment he displayed the most daring valour. He commanded a chosen band of grenadiers at the assault of Jaffa, and was the first to enter the breach. He became a Chef d'Escadron at Marengo, a General of Brigade at Austerlitz, and a General of Division at Essling. On the battle-field of Friedland, where Arrighi mainly contributed to the victory, Napoleon named him Duke of Padua. This ducal title marked the extent of the imperial estimation, since, like the dukes of Treviso, Feltre, and Belluno, it was taken from a town where one of the Bonapartes had in early times been a *Podestat*. The Emperor might well reward Arrighi, for he had not a truer or more energetic servant in his whole host. After further exhibition of exalted courage and talent in Spain and Germany, and especially at Wagram, Arrighi, when the time of adversity came, fought inch by inch for his imperial master. He heroically defended Leipzig; his retreat from thence was to the walls of Paris, where he made head against the Grand Duke Constantine, and had his horse slain under him. He sulkily yielded to the first restoration of the Bourbons, and was again at Napoleon's call on his return from Elba; even after Waterloo he was for contending still, and went to Corsica to try if he could not make that island a channel for relieving the Emperor's fallen fortunes. Arrighi had to quit France at the second Restoration, but was permitted to return in 1819. He was put in retirement in 1837. The wonderful events of the last few years naturally brought the Duke of Padua once more forward. Ingratitude is by no means a sin of the Bonapartes, and when their cause flourished again, the faithful old Corsican warrior and relative was not forgotten. The new Emperor constituted Arrighi a Senator, and Governor of the Invalides. These honours the Duke of Padua did not long enjoy. He died on the 22nd ultimo, in Paris, at the residence of his son-in-law, M. Thayer, the Director-General of Posts. The Duke had married, in 1812, *Mlle. Zoé de Montesquieu*, by whom he leaves, besides a daughter married to M. Edward Thayer, an only son, Ernest Arrighi, lately Prefect of the Department of the Seine and Oise, now Duke of Padua.

SIR JOHN CAMPBELL, BART.

SIR JOHN CAMPBELL, Bart., of Ardnamurchan, recently Lieut.-Governor of St. Vincent's, died, unexpectedly, 18th January, 1853, aged forty-four years, after a short illness of two or three days, of confirmed yellow fever, at the Kings-town residence of the Hon. John Le Gall, M.C. His Excellency, who was born 27th November, 1807, was admitted an advocate at the Scottish bar in 1831; and, in 1834, succeeded to the family Baronetcy, at the decease of his father, Sir John Campbell, who had assumed the title on being served heir-male to Sir Donald Campbell, the first Baronet, of Ardnamurchan. In 1845, Sir John was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of St. Vincent's. He married, 21st November, 1833, Hannah Elizabeth, daughter of the late James Macleod, Esq., of Kassy, and leaves several children.

GENERAL SIR ROBERT BARTON, K.C.H.

THE death of this lamented officer occurred on the 17th ult., at his residence, Montagu-place, Montagu-square. He had completed his 84th year. Sir Robert was the fifth son of William Barton, Esq., of Grove, county Tipperary, by Grace, his wife, daughter of the Very Rev. Charles Massey, Dean of Limerick, and eldest sister of Sir Hugh Dillon Massey, Bart., of Doonass, and the grandson of Thomas Barton, Esq., of Curraghmore, county Fermanagh, by Margaret, his wife, daughter of Robert Delap, Esq., of Ballyshannon. The Irish family of Barton—one of considerable wealth and landed estate—claims to be a branch of the Bartons, of Barton-hall, county Lancaster. It is now divided into the several families of Grove, Clonelly, the Waterfoot, Straffan, Glendalough, and Rochestown.

Happening then to be in the South of France, General Barton commenced his military career as a volunteer in the first division of cavalry of the National Guards, in 1790, and received the thanks of the National Convention, and of General Coursson, for his conduct in the affair of Mussy. Returning to England, he entered the British service in 1793, and was in Flanders in 1795 with the 11th Dragoons, and in Holland in 1799. In the latter year he received on the field the thanks of Sir Ralph Abercromby for his conduct at Oude Carspel. In 1812, as Lieutenant-Colonel of the 2nd Life Guards, he took part in the Peninsular Campaign; and eventually, in 1851, attained the full rank of General.

Sir Robert married, first, Maria, daughter and co-heir of John Paynter, Esq., and niece of Lady Northcot, of Pynes, Devon; he wedded, secondly, Marian Colette, daughter of the poet Addison's representative, the late John Addison, Esq., and great granddaughter of Archbishop Smith; by whom he leaves issue a daughter, Alexandrina Charlotte.

THE CHEVALIER KESTNER, M.R.

THE Chevalier Kestner, late Hanoverian Minister at the Pontifical Court, died on the 8th ult., at Rome, in his 76th year. During a residence of more than forty years in that city, the Chevalier has justly become the favourite of the English residents and visitors. Although he never received remuneration from England, he had, even after the place of Hanoverian Minister at Rome was abolished, in 1848, performed, in the absence of an English resident, all those acts of courtesy and kindness for which foreigners generally look to the representatives of their own Government. Augustus Kestner is known to the English literary public by different essays on the fine arts; in particular, by a small, but highly instructive, volume on painting, ably translated by Sir Charles Eastlake. Kestner was himself a distinguished draughtsman and practised painter, and possessed a profound knowledge of the arts, both ancient and modern, and keen sense of classical beauty. To him is owing, for the most part, the formation of the best collection of casts of antique gems—that published by the Instituto Archeologico, of which he was one of the founders and functionaries, and at which he regularly presided for many years. He also possessed a choice collection of works of art, which formed the Museum Kestnerianum. He had all but finished an accurate catalogue of this museum, and he has bequeathed it to the University of his native country, that of Göttingen. He also leaves, ready to appear in print, a volume of interest to add to the history of Goethe. This volume contains the correspondence of the poet with Kestner's father in the years 1772 and 1773 (the period of "Götz" and of "Faust"), before and after the marriage of Kestner with Lotte, the lovely original of that poetical creation Werther's Charlotte.

THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON HILL.

THE Venerable Justly Hill, Archdeacon and Commissary of Bucks, Rector of Tingewicke, in that county, and of Shanklin-with-Buchurch, in the Isle of Wight, died at Shanklin, on the 18th ult., aged 71.

The reverend gentleman was the youngest and last surviving son of Colonel Hill, of St. Boniface. In his early years, he gained distinction as a Latin scholar at Winchester College and New College, Oxford, of which latter Society he was a Fellow. Throughout life his parochial ministrations were devoted to those among whom he had been known from his childhood; and, when Bonchurch had become a resort of strangers and invalids, a new church was erected under his auspices. His appointment to the Archdeaconry of Buckingham, in 1825, was followed by strenuous and successful efforts to repair the sacred edifices under his jurisdiction. His published charges indicate an intimate acquaintance with the duties of his office, and a steady adherence to the principles of the Reformed Church of England.

ARCHIBALD WILLIAM BLANE, ESQ.

THIS gentleman, whose death occurred on the 6th of November last, at Booral, Port Stephens, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, was Deputy-Governor of the Australian Agricultural Company.

Under Mr. Blane's supervision of this company the wealth of the Peel river district was brought to light. Some years prior to his connection with the company, Mr. Blane held, at different times, various principal offices in the Civil Administration of the Island of Mauritius, and he had a seat in the Council of Government of that colony.

Mr. Blane was the only son of Thomas Blane, Esq., eldest brother of the late eminent physician, Sir Gilbert Blane, Bart., and first cousin to Sir Hugh Seymour Blane, the present Baronet. Mr. Blane married, in April, 1834, Mary Magdalene, eldest daughter of the late Thomas Delves Broughton, Esq., third son of the Rev. Sir Thomas Broughton, Bart., of Broughton-hall, Staffordshire, and of Doddington-hall, Cheshire; by this lady who survives him, he leaves five children.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Thursday.

What shall we begin to entertain you with, dear readers? the question *d'Orient* or Longchamp, the panics of the Bourse or the ball of the *Corps Législatif*? *Voyons*, decidedly the *Times* can tell you more about the plans and movements of Prince or General, or General Prince Menzikoff, Mentzikoff, Menschikoff, Mentchikoff, Menstchikoff, Mentchi, koff, Menchikoff than such a butterfly chronicler as we are; so we think we had better let the matter alone. The same remark applies to the affairs of the Bourse, and there we maintain the same reserve; but we do think we can give him a point or two on such subjects as Longchamp and the ball of the Hôtel de Ville and the *Corps Législatif*, and the theatres, and other such matters as are of rather too high a flight for his capacity, but to which our said butterfly wings carry us easily.

To begin with Longchamp. Ah, dear readers, what a *triste* affair! What cold and dust, and shabby-genteel equipages and ugly horses, and out-of-place finery, and folly and nonsense, and painted "women of quality" and bedizened actresses and *endimanchées grisettes*! what cold and fevers and consumption laid by in store! What ostentation and bad taste, and vulgarity and absurdity displayed! What money wasted, what poverty betrayed! What Longchamp was in its palmy days, we do not pretend to say, that being before our time; but what it is now, we boldly affirm to be the veriest insult to reason and good taste that modern times can boast of. Up and down the Champs Elysées goes Folly rampant, wild with triumph, shaking his bells enchanted, over the heads of the thousands of his votaries, who now, beyond all the other periods of the year, bow before him and do him homage. The follies of the Carnival are nothing to this. They are principally confined to a set of poor folks, who, working the rest of the year, with little to divert or distract them—uneducated and untalented in more intellectual pursuits, spend their holiday and their money in wild attempts at a sort of frantic, artificial, got-up hilarity, because they know no better way of diverting themselves.

This is not the case with Longchamp; the principal actors and actresses in the farce belong to a class who have no such excuses, meagre though they be, for making fools of themselves, and who, by position and education, ought to know better. They make no attempt at gaiety—there is no pretence at any mirth or fun. It is neither more nor less than a set of people who dress themselves out as fine as they possibly can, for the most part in toilets which we know must cause them real and dangerous suffering, from their slowness and total inefficiency to resist the intense cold of the March winds; and sit in equipages almost invariably in the worst taste, if not absolutely mean and shabby, to be dragged up and down, doing nothing but staring and being stared at; and this in Passion-week, the most brilliant day being Good-Friday.

The Government, jealous of the *liberty* which permitted the Republican party to manifest its existence in the most peaceful, the most respectful, and the most legitimate manner (as it seemed to our unenlightened minds), has published a circular, addressed to the *Préfets*, to prevent the members of the party assembling in any numbers at the funeral of members of their own opinion, not to allow them to form *une trop grande réunion* at the house of the deceased, to hinder their entering the cemetery, and to forbid any kind of discourse whatsoever.

It is, therefore, no longer permitted to a free citizen to follow in respectful silence to the grave the body of one he has loved, admired, or respected, if M. le *Préfet* of his department takes upon himself to consider he is one too many in the procession; he is not to go to the house of his lost friend, nor is he to enter what all less enlightened nations than France are accustomed to consider free ground—the graveyard—if M. le *Préfet* thinks that the defunct had no right to possess more than a certain number of friends to lament his loss—the exact cipher fixed by the will of M. le *Préfet*. He has no right to exercise the custom that from time immemorial has existed unquestioned in France, of expressing in a funeral discourse the virtue and merits of the deceased—no matter in what terms—no matter if all allusion to politics be studiously avoided. He has no right, in short—he being a Republican himself—to show any regret or respect for the memory of a Republican; or to say that he possessed any social virtues, any good or fine qualities whatsoever!

Of the ball of the *Corps Législatif* there are few particulars to be given here beyond the general facts that the *coup d'œil* was extremely magnificent, and that the experience gained at the *bal du Sénat* was turned to such good account that but little inconvenience, comparatively speaking, was caused by the crowd; while the arrangements we already detailed, respecting the invitations, secured a much more select company of guests. The Empress, on entering, was observed to look pale, and appeared nervous and agitated; but, in a short time, recovered her composure, and seemed more amused and animated than she generally does in public.

A most interesting work, a *histoire dramatique et littéraire*, containing a complete account of the theatre of the nineteenth century, from the pen of the inimitable *feuilletoniste*, Jules Janin, has just given forth its first two volumes: it is to be completed in six. To those who are familiar with the style of Jules Janin, we need not dwell on the piquancy, the sarcastic wit, the brilliant anecdotes, the keen and delicate observations, sparkling in every page of the work; and to those who are not, we may tell of the fund of information, the valuable material, the truth of detail, and the clear and just criticism of men and times which form its foundation, and render it a history of the literature, manners, and characters of the period, interesting in the highest degree, even to those who care little for the theatre itself.

A comedy by M. Emile Augier, at the Gymnase, entitled "Philiberte," rivals in public favour "l'Honneur et l'Argent" of M. Ponsard, of which we a short time since gave an account. The subject is novel, the heroine being distinguished from all other heroines of the novel and the stage by being plain—we cannot bring ourselves to say of any woman ugly. This, at least, is the starting-point of the piece; but *Philiberte* is not really, and positively, and hopelessly plain. A want of actual beauty, exaggerated in the girl's mind by the taunts of a vain and unforgiving mother, and the comparison with a beautiful sister, render her so hopeless of pleasing, that she makes no attempt to cultivate or display what gifts nature has really bestowed upon her; and shy, and proud, and sensitive, she shrinks within herself, and thus induces others to accept as a fact what she herself has accepted—her plainness. Love—a passion which she never dreamt of inspiring, at last reveals to her her mistake; with the consciousness of pleasing, of being viewed with eyes of affection, of admiration even, the charms, long dormant, burst forth. She becomes not beautiful, but attractive, loveable, charming—all a woman should be to inspire a real and profound attachment: and we need not, of course, finish the story.

At the Grand Opera is preparing "La Journée de la Fronde;" at the Opéra Comique appears "La Touelli;" while the brilliantly successful début of *Mme. Lagrange* in the "Barbieri di Sevilgia," at the Italiens, has given a new and much-needed éclat to that theatre, which, from the commencement of the season, has been in a most feeble condition.

The ball at the Hôtel de Ville is to be the great event of next week, and is, we hear, to be unusually brilliant.

In the French Senate, the Duke de Caumont Laforce has given notice of a motion for voting a donation of 500,000 francs to the Empress.

The *Corps Législatif* met on Wednesday, under the Presidency of M. Billault. The bill, reducing from 15c. to 10c. the postage on prepaid letters circulating within the precincts of Paris was voted; as was also the Savings-bank Bill. Of the latter, the first clause reduces the rate of interest from 4½ to 4 per cent; and the second fixes the maximum of the deposits at 1000fr. each.

The project of law of the Budget for 1854 exhibits an anticipated augmentation of revenue of 69,000,000fr. This estimated amount is founded on the increase of the population, a renewed activity in commercial affairs, and a progressive augmentation in certain imposts. The Council of State has greatly reduced the credits. The Ministry demanded about 56,000,000fr. more than in 1853. The Council of State has only accorded 34,000,000fr., of which 8,000,000fr. is applicable to the department of the Interior, and 17,000,000fr. to that of Public Works. The chapter of the Budget entitled "Expenses of Public Security" is increased by about 800,000fr. The reduction in the War Estimates is about 19,000,000fr. The effective force of the army, as regulated by the Budget of 1853, was 408,450 men and 86,442 horses; in 1854 the effective will be 358,518 men and 83,343 horses. The Navy Estimates, increased by 1,700,000fr., are preceded by the note, which states that the augmentation arises from colonial demand, chiefly Guiana, and the continuance of the works of Gustavian. The estimates, receipts, and expenditure appear much more favourable than when they were presented to the Council of State. But in order that the surplus of receipts be a reality, the maintenance of peace is indispensable; and it may be said that the present Budget is to a certain extent a guarantee of peace.

LOUIS NAPOLEON AND THE LONDON MERCHANTS.

On Easter-Monday, at half-past one o'clock, the Emperor of the French received, at the Tuileries, the deputation of the merchants of London.

The Ministers of State, of Foreign Affairs, and of the Interior, were present. The deputation was composed of Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P.; Sir Edward N. Buxton, Bart.; Mr. Samuel Gurney, Mr. W. Gladstone, Mr. J. D. Powles, Mr. Glyn, Mr. Dent, Mr. Barclay, and Mr. Masterman. Sir James Duke addressed the Emperor in the following terms:—

Sire,—We have the honour and the gratification to appear before your Majesty for the purpose of presenting to your Majesty, and to the French nation, a declaration from the commercial community of the metropolis of the British empire, embodying the sentiments of unity and respect by which they are animated towards their brethren of France.

The circumstances which have called forth this declaration being fully stated in the declaration itself, bearing the signatures of upwards of 4000 of the merchants, bankers, and traders of London, we have only to add the expression of our conviction that this document conveys at the same time a faithful representation of the feelings of the people of England at large.

In conclusion, Sire, we beg to express to your Imperial Majesty our fervent hope that, under your reign, France and England may be always united in a friendly and mutually beneficial intercourse, and that, from the friendship of these two great nations results may ensue favourable to the peace of the world and the happiness of mankind.

The hon. Baronet then read the following, which he afterwards presented to his Imperial Majesty:—

DECLARATION OF THE MERCHANTS, BANKERS, TRADERS, AND OTHERS, OF LONDON.

We, the undersigned merchants, bankers, traders, and others, of London, feel ourselves called upon at this time publicly to express the concern with which we learn, through various channels of information, that an impression exists in the minds of the people of France that feelings of an unfriendly character are entertained towards them by the people of England.

We think it right emphatically to declare that we believe no such feelings exist on the part of the English people towards the people of France. We believe the welfare of both nations to be closely interwoven, as well in a mutually advantageous and commercial intercourse as in a common participation in all the improvements of art and science.

Rejoicing in the reflection that nearly forty years have passed since the final cessation of hostilities between France and England, we record our conviction that European wars should be remembered only to be deplored, for the sacrifice of life and treasure with which they were attended—the hindrances they interposed to all useful enterprise and social advancement—the angry and unchristian feelings which they evoked in their progress—and the heavy financial burdens which they left behind them at their close—considerations which supply the most powerful motives to every individual in the European community to avoid, and to oppose by every means in his power, whatever may tend to cause the recurrence of such evils.

We desire to remark, that if, in that expression of opinion on public questions which the press of this country is accustomed to exercise, it is found occasionally to speak with apparent harshness of the Government or the institutions of other States, the same is not to be understood in a spirit of national hostility, or as desiring to give offence. We feel that, with the internal policy or mode of government which the French nation may think good to adopt for itself, it is not for British subjects to interfere, further than heartily to desire that it may result in peace and happiness to all interested therein.

We conclude this declaration by proclaiming our earnest desire for the long continuance of cordiality and good-will between Frenchmen and Englishmen; our determination to do all in our power to uphold the same; and our fervent hope that the inhabitants of both nations may, in future, only vie with each other in cultivating the arts of peace, and in extending the sources of social improvement for their common benefit.

His Majesty replied in English:—

I am extremely touched by this manifestation. It confirms me in the confidence with which the good sense of the English nation has always inspired me. During the long stay I made in England I admired the liberty she enjoys—thanks to the perfection of her institutions. Nevertheless, at one period last year I feared that public opinion was misled with regard to the true state of France and her sentiments towards Great Britain. But the good faith of a great people cannot be long deceived, and the step which you now take is a striking proof of this.

Ever since I have held power my efforts constantly tend to develop the prosperity of France. I know her interests; they are not different from those of all other civilised nations. Like you, I desire peace; and, to make it sure, I wish, like you, to draw closer the bonds which unite our two countries.

The deputation then retired. The "Declaration" in question appeared as an advertisement in the *Times* and *Daily News* of Tuesday, with the whole of the names attached. It occupies a page and a column of the leading journal. It comprises the names of many M.P.'s, and of some of the first bankers and commercial firms of the metropolis. The gentlemen forming the deputation have received the greatest attentions from the members of the French Cabinet. On Tuesday they dined with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, on Wednesday evening with the Minister of State, and on Thursday they had the honour of dining with their Imperial Majesties at the Tuileries. The Paris papers are delighted with the expression of opinion from the commercial portion of the British metropolis, and they cordially reciprocate the sentiment that peace between the two countries may be perpetuated.

On Tuesday the Emperor granted an audience to a deputation of the English company who propose joining the Atlantic with the Pacific Ocean. The Ambassadors from Peru and New Granada joined the deputation, and were also received by the Emperor. Sir Charles Fox, the president of the company, addressed the Emperor in explanation of the project, in favour of which he solicited the patronage and support of France. The Emperor replied in English as follows:—

Gentlemen, I received with the liveliest interest the intelligence of the formation of a great company for the junction of the two oceans. I have no doubt that you will succeed in an undertaking which must render so important a service to the commerce of the whole world, since such eminent men are placed at the head of your company. I have long appreciated all the advantages of a junction between the two seas, and when I was in England I endeavoured to draw the attention of scientific men to this subject. You may, therefore, rest assured, gentlemen, that you will meet with all the support from me which such noble efforts deserve.

The Company's report, plans, and maps were then laid before the Emperor, who examined them with particular attention. When the deputation withdrew, the Emperor said:—

I am happy to have seen your honourable deputation the very day after having received the one which, on the part of the merchants of London, expressed to me the most friendly sentiments in favour of peace—sentiments with which my own feelings have always been in complete accord.

On Good Friday there was a religious ceremonial in the Tuileries, when the "Miserere" was chanted, and a sermon preached. The Emperor and Empress were present, with about twenty or thirty ladies of the household, and as many gentlemen. The Empress appeared fatigued from standing during the ceremony, and, at the Emperor's request, she sat down. The promenade of Longchamps was very gay towards the evening. The Emperor and Empress passed up and down the Champs Elysées three times; they were in a close carriage.

Perichaud, who was sent for trial before a council-of-war for the assassination of the Archbishop of Paris, has been found "Not Guilty," but has been sentenced to transportation for having taken part in the insurrection of June, 1848.

GERMANY.

A telegraphic despatch from Berlin of the 29th ult. states a conspiracy had been discovered. Twenty persons had been arrested, 80 houses searched, and arms and ammunition found.

A letter from Vienna, of the 23rd ult. says:—"We learn from the Tyrol that the fête of riflemen given to celebrate the recovery of the Emperor, had the character of a national fête. It is said that a disagreeable incident has troubled the pleasure of this fête, the arms of England having been publicly outraged; and it is added that the Earl of Westmorland has already addressed a note on the subject to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Some persons fired at the arms. The authorities then interfered, and put a stop to the demonstration."

The embassy of Prince Menshikoff to Constantinople excites great interest at Vienna. The Austrian *Lloyd* remarks:—"Should the matter be arranged peaceably, the Turkish Empire will fall in peace; if the reverse, it will fall in war. If the Emperor of Russia acquires the right to appoint the Patriarch at Constantinople, and with it the protectorate over the Greek Christians in Turkey (about 14,000,000 or 15,000,000), the Empire which ended 400 years ago, when Constantinople was taken by the Turks, will be restored *de facto* in 1853." The present is regarded as one of the most critical moments that Europe has ever seen. The Viennese say that the power which must eventually suffer most, should the gigantic plans of Russia be realised, is Austria.

SWITZERLAND.

We hear of an attempted *coup-de-main* by some disaffected peasants under Romish influence in the Canton of Ticino. Influenced by the in-

terested misrepresentations of their clergy, and as stated in the report of Colonel Bourgeois, well supplied with money and with weapons for the attack, some hundreds of the inhabitants of the Val Colla secretly made their way to Lugano, and, all at once, assembled on the principal piazza of the little capital of Fribourg. Fortunately, the civic guards ran to arms, prevented the insurrection, and arrested fifteen of the leaders. The troops at Lugano have been reinforced, and the military have occupied the entrance of the valley. A letter from Berne of the 26th ult. states that the Canton of Ticino is tranquil. The governments of Zurich and the Vaud have declined to comply with the invitation of the Council of State of Geneva to convoke the Federal Diet. They say they have confidence in the Federal Council for the termination of all existing differences.

ITALY.

We hear from Turin that the Austrian Cabinet has replied to the note of Count Revel on the subject of the sequestration of the property of certain Lombards who have been naturalised in Piedmont. This reply has failed to satisfy the Sardinian Government. M. de Cavour has accordingly sent Colonel Actis to Vienna. The Colonel is the bearer of fresh instructions to Count Revel. In these instructions provision is made in case the Count shall have left Vienna.

A letter from Rome states that there has been this year a great falling off in the number of strangers who annually resort to Rome to witness the Easter ceremonies. This is attributed to the persecutions of the Medici, and other acts of intolerance on the part of the Romish Church. The Pope is said to be personally desirous to come to Paris to crown the Emperor.

SPAIN.

The report of the majority of the committee of the Senate favourable to the pretensions of Narvaez, has been rejected by that body by 106 to 64. The Minister has signified his intention of depriving those senators of their functions as public officers who voted with the minority in favour of the claims of Marshal Narvaez.

GREECE.

M. R. Palamides, the Minister of the Interior, cedes his place to M. I. Ambrosiades, late Prefect of Attica and Boeotia. Palamides has, as a special favour, been created a Senator.

RUSSIA.

Some very interesting particulars of the position and efficiency of the Russian army are contained in the latest of a series of letters on the subject published in the *Army Gazette* of Berlin. The following passage has a present interest:—

The construction of the great railway lines connecting Moscow, Petersburg, Odessa, and Warsaw, in changing the conditions under which a military force may be transported, changes the principles upon which Russia has hitherto conducted her preparations for war. Supposing a war to threaten from the West, we may assume that the active army would not move until Poland had been occupied. Hitherto this operation must have consumed months; but let the railroad from Petersburg to Warsaw be finished, and a week will suffice for the purpose. Before the first rail of the line is laid down, the future military use has been a matter of study, and with especial reference to the transport of large masses of troops. Thousands of military transport waggons are already made or making, and their construction is truly artistic. The packing or suspending of arms, knapsacks, cavalry saddles, and all the appurtenances of a battalion, are abundantly cared for. In three days the half, or in a week the whole, Guard and Grenadier corps may stand in Poland, while the reserves are coming up to St. Petersburg, by the Moscow and Petersburg Railway. The whole political significance of the new railway lies in the fact, that the Guard and Grenadier corps may in future be brought to Poland in a week instead of in months. Let that great artery be connected with Odessa, and with a railroad from Moscow to Warsaw, as well as with another from Warsaw to Odessa, and it cannot then be denied that Russia will have effected a revolution in her military relations to Europe.

It is reported that a division of the Russian army has entered Bucharest, the capital of Turkish Wallachia.

We hear of defalcations among high Russian official authorities. The sum embezzled was 1,800,000 silver rubles. The Privy Councillor, General Politkessky, who had the management of certain public monies, on his death-bed confessed how he had abused the confidence reposed in him. The corpse of the penitent man was degraded in its coffin by the executioner, and ignominiously shovelled into the earth. Several Generals have been arrested who ought to have examined the accounts of the deceased. The scandalous affair so vexed the Emperor that he was quite ill for a time.

TURKEY.

The much-dreaded interview between Prince Menshikoff, the haughty Envoy of Russia, and the Sultan, took place on the 9th ult. The result is reported to be satisfactory, and no pretensions or claims corresponding to the extraordinary deportment of Prince Menshikoff on his entry into Constantinople are said to have been put forward. The Prince is stated to have expressed himself satisfied with the removal of Fuad Effendi, and with the explanations of his successor. The new Minister, Rifaat Pacha, successor of Fuad Effendi, appears to be favourable to Russia. Both in London and in Paris the Russian Government is said to have declared, on the faith of the Emperor, that the formidable list of demands ascribed to Prince Menshikoff has no foundation in his instructions, which are confined to the matter of the Holy Places; and that even on this subject he is to claim no exclusive privileges for the Greek Church but to find out some means of affording an equivalent to the priests of the Latin Church in the Holy Land. These communications have been made, in a very friendly and conciliatory spirit, to the French Government, and apparently with a desire to remove the cause of difference arising out of the rival churches.

Letters from Constantinople state that the Russians throw away large sums of money in Constantinople, and make considerable presents to the old Turkish party. Colonel Rose, the English Chargé d'Affaires, has been "enubled." He proffered his services to the Grand Vizier, as mediator between Prince Menshikoff and Fuad Effendi; but, on calling at the Russian Embassy, M. d'Ozeroff informed him that, as the Ambassador was aware of the cause of his visit, he must beg to be excused seeing him; he wished to avoid all discussion, as he was only obeying the express instructions of his Sovereign in respect to the Turkish Minister. Lord Stratford's arrival was looked forward to with extreme impatience. The new bank plan is neither more nor less than another kind of loan, which will cost the Porte more than Prince Callimacki's would have done. It has, however, one advantage. It will not afford the Turkish employes such facilities for enriching themselves at the expense of the state.

MOROCCO.

Intelligence has been received of the deplorable state of the Emperor's health. His death, it is feared, will be the signal for a terrible crisis.

AMERICA.

By the United States mail steamer *Pacific*, we have advices from New York to the 19th ult. Strong debates have taken place in the Senate on Central America and the Monroe doctrine. The fact of Truxillo having been taken possession of by the British steamer *Devastation* on the part of the Mosquito King is confirmed. The United States Government, it is said, has called upon the English Minister for an explanation with regard to Honduras; and the Secretary of the Navy is to report what efficient naval force he has fit for action. A treaty to liquidate mutual claims between the British and American Governments has been ratified by the Senate. The fortnightly steamers from California (seven in number) have brought about four millions and a half of dollars in gold. There is an active war between Honduras and Guatemala, the cause being a disputed boundary.

From Havannah we have advices to the 13th ult. The Commissioners deputed to meet Santa Anna and invite him to return to Mexico, had arrived at Havannah on their way to Carthagena. The general impression in Mexico was that Santa Anna would not proceed directly there, but await in Havannah the formation of an army, which it is said is being got together to support his views. Seven States had voted for his Presidency. The other States had not been heard from, with the exception of Puebla and Guanajuato, which had declared against him. A very decided majority of the people of Mexico were in favour of his return to power. General Blancarte had left Mexico with a brigade of 1500 men and six pieces of artillery, to bring to terms the State of Guanajuato. Senor Villamil had arrived at Tehuantepec, commissioned by the Government to deliver up the Isthmus to the representatives of the Sloc Company.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The following telegraphic message has arrived, dated Trieste, March 28:—

"The steamer *Bombay* arrived this morning from Alexandria, in 123 hours.

"Ambassadors from Ava, accompanied by two missionaries, had reached General Godwin's camp.

"The Emperor of Ava was besieged in a small fort by his younger brother, who had the whole army on his side; he was sure of reducing the fort, and desired peace with the British on any terms.

"In consequence of orders received from Ava the Burmese troops had evacuated the province of Pegu, and General Steel had occupied all the strong positions in the district.

The province of Bassein had been cleared of the enemy by Captains Fytch and Rennie; but an expedition sent against a robber chief, near Donabew, had been repulsed with a loss of two guns and 88 killed and wounded.

"Among the officers killed were Capt. Loch and Lieut. Kennedy, R.N.; and Capt. Pryce, 67th Bengal Native Infantry. Among the severely wounded were Lieut. Bushnell, R.N.; and Messrs. Hinde and Wilson, Mates of the *Winchester*.

"Trade was brisk at Calcutta and Bombay.

"The rebellion in China was growing more and more serious every day."

The melancholy incident so briefly narrated in the telegraphic despatch has excited a feeling of deep regret for the premature loss which the service has sustained in the deaths of the officers killed. We knew from the last advices, that an attack was to be made upon a strong position at Donabew, where a marauding chief, with upwards of a thousand followers, had occupied the square of the Pagoda, and ejected the head man of the town, who had been faithful to the British throughout the war. These marauders, or dacoits, as they were called in the army, had already given the forces some trouble, for they occupy a country covered with jungle and intersected with creeks, in the unknown delta of the river. Very recently a squadron of boats and a steamer had been sent against them, and had returned with loss, never having seen the enemy, though they ascended a narrow creek, staked in several places, and were exposed to a galling fire.—(Vide ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, March 19, in which appeared a Sketch by an officer of the Indian army, of the attack made upon the boats by the Burmese). It was, therefore, thought necessary to renew the attack on these formidable robbers with a larger force, and Captain Granville Loch, the flag-captain of the *Winchester*, who had already shown the greatest activity and ability in maintaining the communication by water between Prome and Rangoon, determined to lead this enterprise in person; for, since his arrival on the station last autumn, he has been foremost wherever there was an enemy to be encountered or a service to be performed. The result of this attack proved most unfortunate. It was repulsed by the natives with very severe loss, amounting to no less than 88 killed and wounded out of a party which cannot have exceeded 300 or 400. Two guns were also lost; and, as if to render this disaster the most painful occurrence in the campaign, it was marked by the death of Captain Loch himself, who commanded the expedition, and of Lieutenant Kennedy, of the *Fox*, while several other officers and mates were severely wounded.

DESTRUCTION OF RANGOON BY FIRE.

By electric telegraph from Marseilles, we learn that the Overland India Mail contains despatches from China, Feb. 10; Rangoon, Feb. 14; Calcutta, Feb. 19; and Bombay, March 1.

Rangoon has been almost destroyed by conflagration.

AUSTRALIA.

The *Great Britain* steamer brought files of Australian papers to the Cape of Good Hope. These advices have arrived by the *Calcutta*, which sailed four days after the *Great Britain*. The *Great Britain* brings a rich cargo of wool, 130,000 ounces of gold, 175 passengers, and a mail. She left Port Phillip on Jan. 5, and arrived at Simon's Bay on Thursday, the 10th of February.

The Government escort from Mount Alexander arrived at Melbourne with 16,125 ounces of gold. The last escort from Ballarat brought down 11,000 ounces of gold, 2677 ounces of which were for Melbourne, and the remainder for Geelong. Another from Mount Alexander and Bendigo arrived at Melbourne with 9902 ounces of gold. The last accounts from the various diggings are by no means favourable; but all experienced persons agree in asserting that there is no probability of the gold-fields failing. The price of gold was £3 9s. 9d. on Feb. 7. A person recently returned to Melbourne from the Ovens with 15 lbs. of gold, got there by himself. The armed escort from the southern diggings arrived at Sydney on the 7th December, with 14,230 oz. of gold. The shares in the proposed Sydney Gold Escort Company have been well received in the market, and it is expected that operations will be speedily commenced. The last reports from the north and south diggings were favourable. Several parties have recently arrived at Maitland, from the Hanging Rock, with parcels of 60 or 80 oz. of gold.

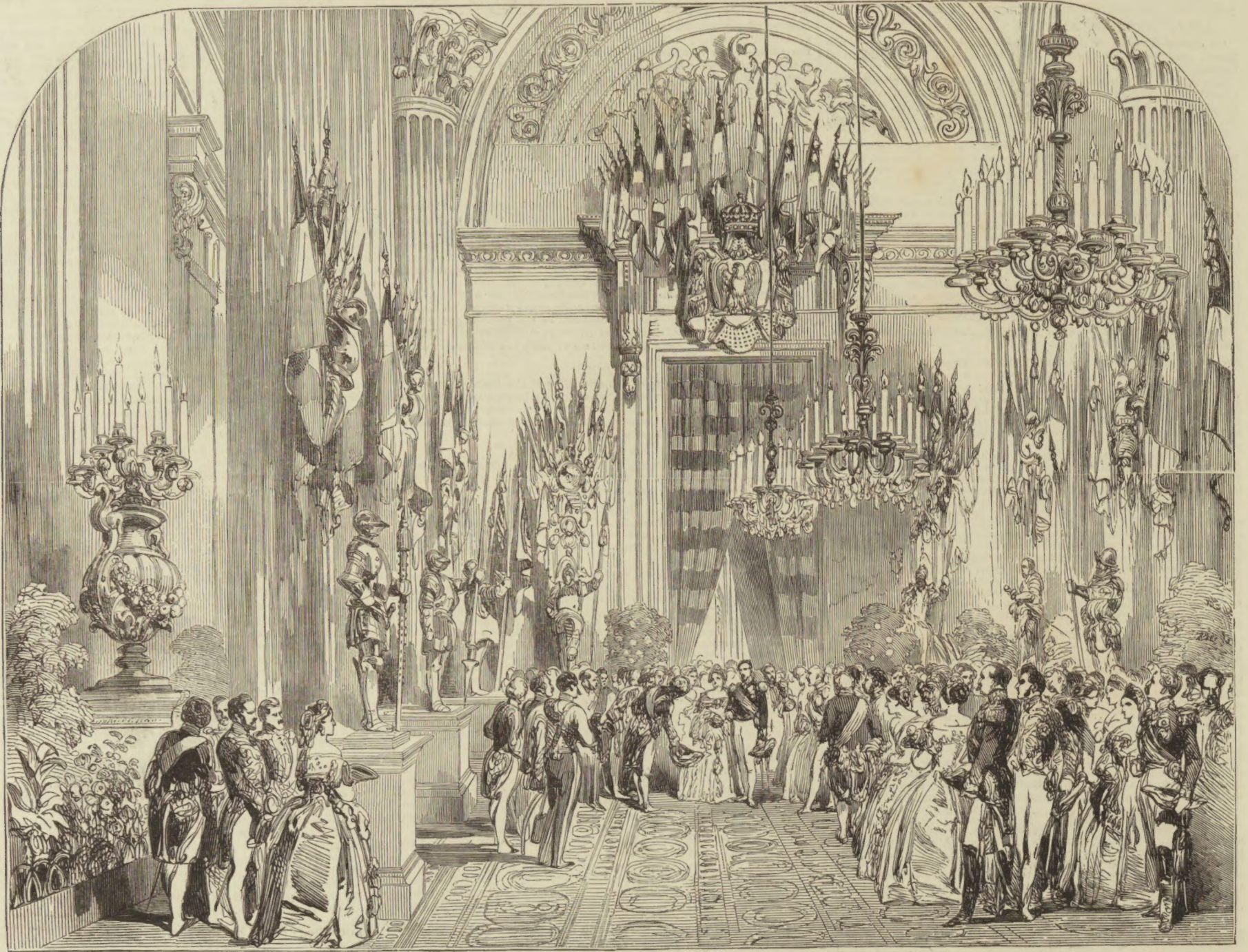
The first specimens of the sovereigns executed in Adelaide are in circulation. On one side is a crown, the year of coinage, and the words "Government Assay Office, Adelaide." On the other side are the words, "Value, One Pound," and weight 5 dwts., 15 grains, 22 carats.

THE BALL OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY TO THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

This grand fête offered by the members of the Legislative Body, in the Palace, at Paris, to the Emperor and the Empress took place on Monday night with great magnificence. The persons invited began to arrive at nine o'clock, and from that hour until half-past twelve o'clock, an uninterrupted stream of carriages was to be seen, on each side of the river, advancing towards the scene of festivity.

Three entrances were opened for the guests: the principal one, that by the Court of Honour of the Palace from the Place de Bourgogne, was reserved for the carriages of the Imperial party, of the Ambassadors, and of a few privileged personages; a second entrance was by the avenue of the hotel of the President of the Legislative Body; and the third, on the other side of the Palace, was by the steps in front of the Pont de la Concorde. To make this arrangement available, it was necessary to unite together the Hotel of the President with the Palace of the Legislative Body; and this was effected by means of a temporary construction erected over the whole length of the garden lying between the two buildings. The building thus raised, and which formed the very centre of the fête, consisted first of a vast *jardin d'hiver*; next, of an immense ball-room; and lastly, of a supper-room, capable of accommodating 250 persons at a time. The first-named of these constructions was separated, throughout its whole length, into three distinct galleries communicating with each other by means of wide arcades; and all most tastefully arranged with flowers, evergreens, statues, fountains of falling water, mirrors, long lines of chandeliers from the ceiling, and thousands of lights along the walls. These arrangements bespoke the exquisite taste of M. De Joly, the architect; of M. Hebert; and of the *entrepreneur-general*, M. Alexis Godillot. Upon the ensuing page we have engraved the reception-room, *Salle des Armures*; and beneath it, the *Jardin d'Hiver*.

At half-past ten, the carriages of the Imperial party entered the courtyard of the Legislative Palace. Their Majesties were received at the foot of the steps by M. Billaut, the President, at the head of the members composing the Bureau of the Chamber, and the deputies appointed to act as stewards of the fête. Their Majesties were then conducted through the *Salle des Armures*, mentioned above (which they stopped a moment to admire), to the *Salle du Trône*, where the other members of the Imperial Family and the Ministers had already arrived. Almost immediately after, their Majesties, accompanied by a most numerous suite, proceeded to the *Salle des Pas Perdus*, and took their seats on the chairs of state prepared for them. The Princess Mathilde occupied the seat on the right of the Emperor, whilst Prince Jérôme and Prince Napoleon were on the left of the Empress. The Emperor wore the uniform of a general officer, and the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honour. He appeared in excellent health and spirits. The Empress excited, as usual, universal admiration. Her Majesty wore a pale pink satin robe with magnificent point lace, and trimmed with white roses, surrounded with their green leaves. Her hair was worn off the forehead, the back of the head bearing a quantity of flowers, sprinkled with diamonds. On her neck was a necklace of diamonds and emeralds of great value; and her Majesty wore *en sautoir* the cordon of the Order lately sent to her by the Queen of Spain. After their Majesties had graciously saluted several persons whom they recognised in the company before them, and had conversed with some of the Ambassadors, the Imperial quadrille was formed to open the ball. The Empress danced with M. Billaut, President of the Legislative Body; and the Emperor with Mlle. Billaut, daughter of that functionary. The other personages in the quadrille were the Princess Mathilde, who had M. Fould, the Minister of State, for her partner; the *vis-à-vis* being M. Rogier, the Minister of Belgium, and the Countess de Hatzfeldt, wife of the Prussian Minister. As soon as the quadrille had concluded, their Majesties resumed their seats, and conversed for some time with the personages around them. The Emperor also descended from his chair to speak to others. Their Majesties then walked through the rooms, and appeared struck with the taste displayed in the decorations. They then withdrew to the *Salle du Trône*, where they remained conversing for some time with the persons admitted to their presence; and about half-past eleven proceeded to the *Salle des Conférences*, which was fitted up as a supper-room, tables being set out round three sides of it, capable of allowing 300 persons to



RECEPTION OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH BY THE LEGISLATIVE BODY.—THE SALLE DES ARMURES.

partake of refreshment at the same time. After partaking of some slight refectation, their Majesties returned for a few minutes to the Salle du Trône, and then took their departure at about twelve o'clock—the Emperor expressing to M. Billault his entire satisfaction at the admirable manner in which the fête had been conducted.

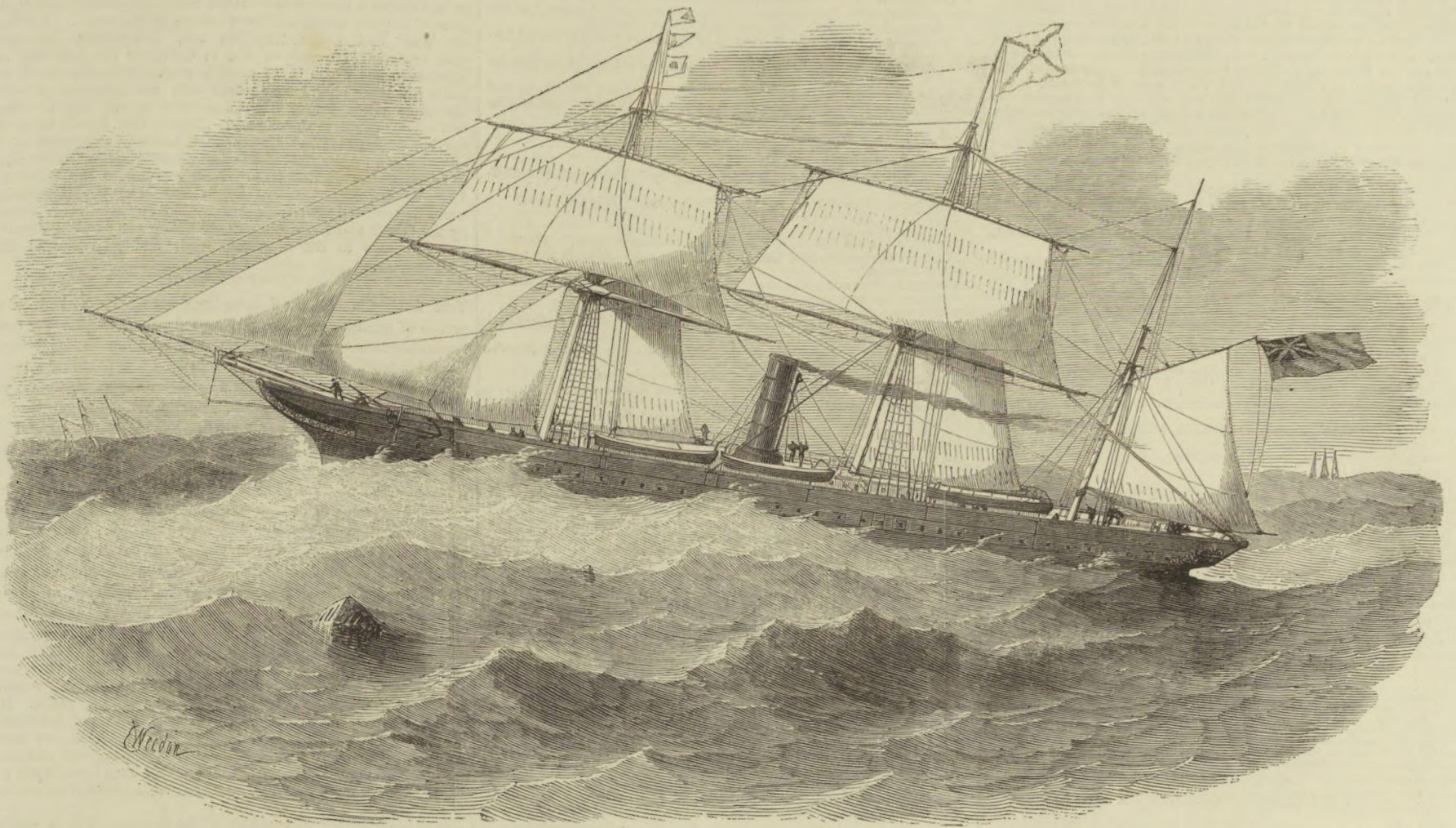
Looking generally at this fête, the guests were unanimous in declaring

it to be one of the most successful seen in Paris of late years. The number of beautiful women present was extraordinary, and the display of diamonds unusually fine. The vast variety of official costumes imparted a peculiar appearance of animation to the scene; and the uniforms of most of the military services of Europe were to be seen there—the scarlet of the English army being pretty numerous represented.

Some English court-dresses were also to be seen worn, it is said, by some of the gentlemen who had in the morning presented the Peace Address to the Emperor. It is calculated that about 5000 persons passed through the rooms in the course of the night. About three o'clock the company began to thin, but dancing was kept up with great spirit until half-past four in the morning.



GRAND BALL OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY TO THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.—THE JARDIN D'HIVER.



THE AUSTRALIAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIP "SYDNEY."

THE AUSTRALIAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIP,
"SYDNEY."

THIS noble vessel (commanded by Captain Franklyn) has excited considerable interest, by her return from Australia with a very rich freight of gold—valued at £800,000 sterling. Her passengers were 122 adults, and 17 children. In addition, the *Sydney* obtained £2000 for inter-colonial passengers only.

The *Sydney* left Plymouth on the 4th of August, 1852, at 8.30 A.M., and arrived at St. Vincent in 10 days 5 hours; she was detained there 3 days 6½ hours. From St. Vincent to Ascension she was 12 days 13½ hours on the voyage, and was detained there 6 days 6½ hours. The run from Ascension to the Cape of Good Hope occupied 9 days 20 hours, and she was detained there 5 days 6 hours. She left the Cape of Good Hope October 3, and arrived at King George's Sound October 24, making the passage in 21 days 12 hours. She was detained at that place, coaling, for 4 days 21 hours, from the impossibility of procuring labour, and sailed October 29; arrived in 5 days at Adelaide, remained there 1 day 7 hours; sailed November 5 for Port Phillip, arrived November 7, remained discharging passengers and cargo there 5 days 19 hours; and on November 13 sailed for Sydney, where she arrived November 16, in 71½ hours.

On her return voyage she sailed from Sydney, December 4; arrived in 89 hours at Port Phillip, and remained there 3 days 7 hours. On Dec. 11 she sailed for Adelaide, where she arrived December 14, in 61½ hours, remained there taking passengers and treasure 3 days 9 hours; sailed for King George's Sound, December 17; arrived December 23, in 6 days; remained coaling 9 days 3½ hours; sailed January 1, arrived at the Cape on February 1, in 30 days 23 hours; remained at the Cape 4 days 12½ hours coaling, sailed February 6; arrived at St. Vincent February 26, in 20 days 13½ hours, remained coaling 3 days 21 hours; sailed March 2, and arrived at Plymouth in 14 days 3 hours.

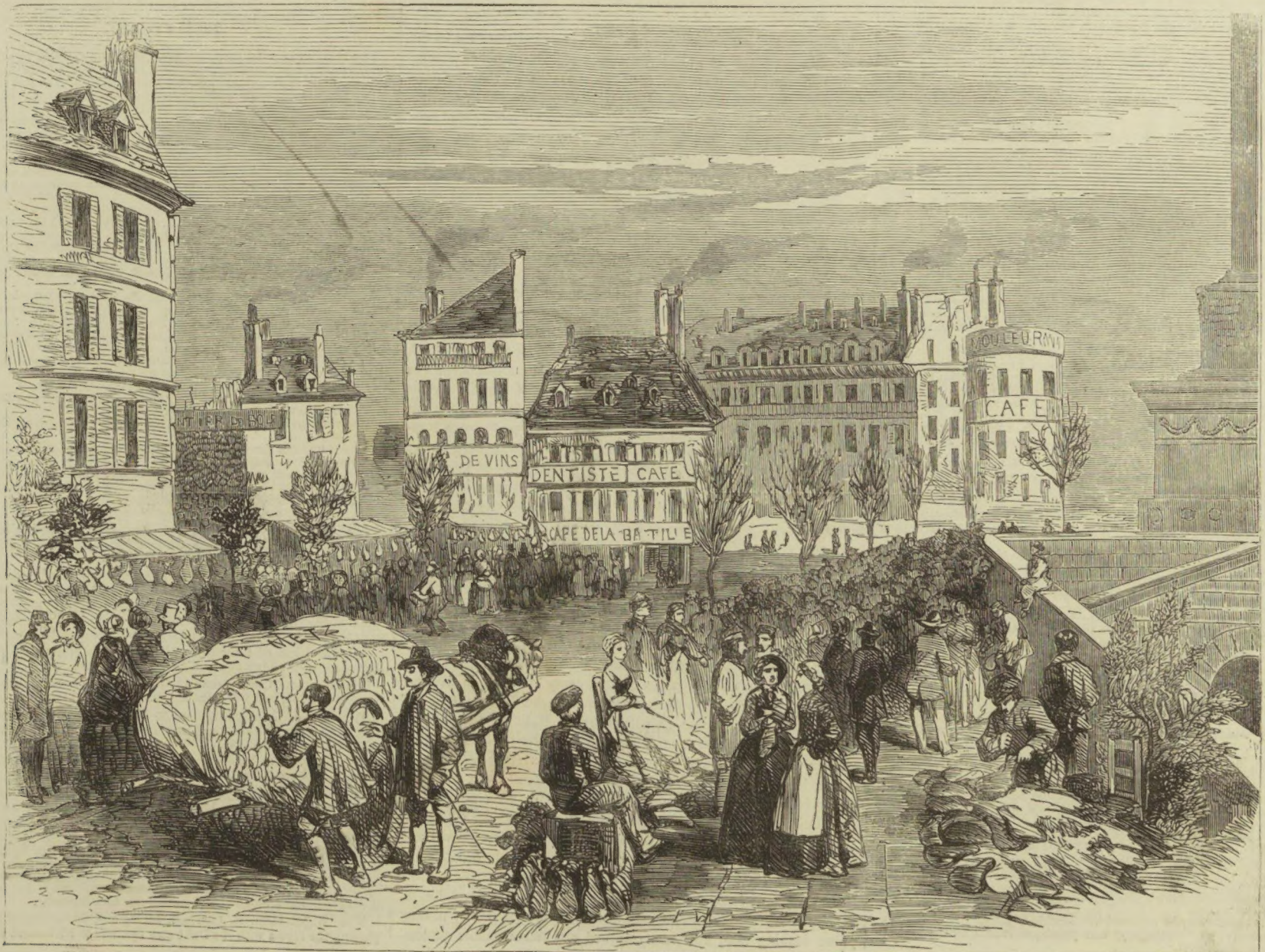
The *Sydney* was built by Denny and Co. Her dimensions are:—Length, 216 feet; beam, 34 feet; depth, 25 feet. She is 1500 tons burthen, and 300 horse-power.

THE HAM FAIR AT PARIS.

THE yearly fair for the sale of hams, which takes place on the Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of Holy Week, was held on the 22nd ult., according to an ordinance of the Prefect of Police, upon the Boulevard Bourdon, extending from the Grenier d'Abondance to the Quai Morland. Two days previous to the fair the dealers entered their

names, in order to obtain places at the fair for the sale of their goods, which arrived in carts and other vehicles on Monday night. On Tuesday morning, at daybreak, the workmen began to unload the hams, and to construct the booths for their reception. The latter were ranged in two rows—the one abutting upon the Grenier d'Abondance, and the other upon the canal. Some of the booths first constructed were ornamented with gay ribbons and evergreens. Altogether, there were not less than from 300 to 320 stalls, at which were sold, throughout the fair, not only hams, but sausages, salt and hung pork, lard, *andouilles*, and other dainties. A fine sucking-pig, smoked, of the crossed Leicester breed, from the agricultural colony of Petit-Bourg, excited some attention.

In proceeding from the Bastille to the Seine, the ham-merchants were ranged in the following order:—On one side were the wholesale dealers of the Moselle, la Meuse, les Vosges, le Nord, l'Aisne, l'Eure, la Haute-Marne, la Marne, l'Oise, Seine-et-Oise; on the other side those of la Seine, la Nièvre, l'Orne, l'Eure-et-Loir, l'Indre, la Vienne, le Maine-et-Loire, et les Basses-Pyrénées. In the middle of the macadamised road some merchants of the above departments who could not find room on the two other lines, formed a third row. The Department of the Meuse, as in former years, contributed the greater number of dealers to the fair, viz., 64. After them came the Departments of the Seine and the Moselle, the latter numbering 28 dealers. The number of dealers, alto-



EASTER HAM FAIR, AT PARIS.

gether, was much less than last year. The price of ham of all kinds varied from 80 cents to 1 franc 20 cents the demi-kilogramme, or from about 8d. to 1s. per lb.

The Ham Fair is of very ancient origin. The Gauls and the Gallic Romans have transmitted to the French their taste for pork-flesh—a taste so exclusively their own, that, according to Legrand d'Aussy, there were up to the twelfth century, feasts where only the flesh of pork was served up. At Paris, the Cathedral Chapter, upon certain days of ceremony, were treated in a similar manner; and such, it is stated, is the origin of the Ham Fair of Paris, which was originally held around the entrance to the Cathedral. When the festival of Easter arrived, the French, who observed Lent very scrupulously, solaced themselves with a ham, and this was considered the dainty *par excellence*. The ham destined to this re-invigoration of the physical system was blessed by the clergy.

At the foot of the Column of July, upon the Place de la Bastille, and on the Boulevard Bourdon, as far as the Ham Market extended, dealers in various fancy wares constructed booths and exposed their goods for sale. This usually solitary and tranquil quarter was thus transformed, during the whole of last week, into a noisy and animated fair.

During the last two or three days the fair was more numerous attended than at the commencement, and a large amount of business was transacted. Seven persons were taken up during the time the fair lasted for theft. One of them is a native of London, who admits that he came over on purpose to attempt something during the fair; and another, a woman, aged 55, who was furnished with a dress made into a sort of bag, in which 15 kilogrammes of *charcuterie* were found when she was arrested. Another of the persons taken up was a convict, discharged from the bagne of Toulon in 1849.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 3.—First Sunday after Easter.
MONDAY, 4.—St. Ambrose.
TUESDAY, 5.—Goldsmith died, 1774.
WEDNESDAY, 6.—Richard Cour-de-Lion killed, 1199.
THURSDAY, 7.—Don Pedro, Emperor of Brazil, abdicated, 1831.
FRIDAY, 8.—Fire Insurance due.
SATURDAY, 9.—Battle of Toulouse, 1814. Lord Bacon died, 1626.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 9.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
9 35	10 40	11 35	12 0	Tide 0 30	0 55	1 20

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS VOLUMES, from the Commencement (May 14th, 1842) to December 31st, 1852, consisting of TWENTY-ONE VOLUMES, may now be had through all booksellers and News-agents.—Price of the Complete Set, bound in strong paper, for exportation, £14 10s.; bound in cloth, elegantly gilt, £19 10s. Any single Volume can be had separately. Price of Volume I., cloth, 21s.; II. to XVII., 18s. each; XVIII., 21s.; XIX., 25s.; XX., 18s.; XXI., 21s.; or in Paper Covers, at 5s. per Volume less. The price of a Single Back Number a month after the date of publication, is 1s. Covers for Binding the Volumes, 2s. 6d. Binding Cases, 2s. Portfolios, 4s. A liberal discount to Merchants and Shippers.—Office, 198, Strand.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. F.—The *Arms* of Fullerton are: "Arg. three otters' heads erased gu. Crest: A camel's head and neck erased ppr." Motto: Lux in tenebris.
ARMIGER.—*Arms* of Eccleston: "Arg. a cross sa., in the dexter chief a fleurs-de-lis gu. Crest: A magpie ppr."

PEN.—We do not find any arms registered to the name of Hickling.
DELTA.—*Arms* of Tallock: "Az. a bend cotised or, in chief a dolphin naiant arg. Crest: Out of a mural coronet az. a dexter arm brandishing a sword waved ppr."

K. R.—We have no details or information about the name of Kynoch.
FINCH ST.—*Arms* of Davidson required: "Az. on a fesse arg. between three pheons or; a buck couchant gu."

A CONSTANT READER.—Daughters take the same precedence as the eldest son. The point submitted would depend on the relative rank of the husbands.

A WALSH SUBSCRIBER is desirous to obtain information regarding a General Harry Innes, who died s. p. in 1807. Can any of our readers assist the inquirer?

AN ESQ.—A name may be legally assumed, or changed, by the simple adoption of the new one. The Royal license does not add to the legality; but is desirable as rendering the alteration proper, and acknowledged. Some testamentary bequests require the name to be changed by Royal license, and then of course such license must be obtained. The cost of a Royal license, procured through a member of the Herald's College, is about fifty guineas; but there is an additional sum of forty guineas required for the stamp, when the name is under a will.
AN OXFORD SUBSCRIBER.—A younger son, whose mother was a co-heiress, is fully entitled to bear her arms as a quartering; but he has no right to take her family crest.

X. Y. Z., York.—*Arms* of Lillingston, whose eventual heiress married Spooner: "A bugle stringed between three crescents."
LITA.—The children of each generation use the same courtesy designations.

A SUBSCRIBER.—Nicholas Wadham, of Merrifield, county Somerset, was the founder of Wadham College. His wife was Dorothy, daughter of Sir William Petre, but by her he had no issue. Wadham, the founder, was son of Sir John Wadham, of Merrifield, one of the Judges of the Common Pleas, and brother of William Wadham, of Merrifield.—See "Collinson's Somersetshire."

ALBINO.—The late Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel succeeded to the baronetcy which had been conferred in 1800 on his father, the first Sir Robert.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—*Arms* of Vaughan, Earl of Carbery: "Per fesse arg. and sa., a lion rampant, regardant, counterchanged." There does not appear to have been any descent from the Vaughans in the Evans family, which has taken Carbery for the title of their peerage. John Vaughan, 3rd and last Earl of Carbery, died January 12th, 1712, leaving an only child, Anne, Duchess of Bolton; at whose decease, s. p., in 1751, the old family estate of Golden-grove passed to her heir male, John Vaughan, Esq., of Shenfield, whose great-grandson and representative is the present John Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, Esq., of Pennoyre, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Brecknock.

A. and B.—The question cannot be solved without reference to the original patents of arms. If the arms of the first Nova Scotia Baronet were those of his father, and not a grant, personally, to himself, the grandson of B. is clearly entitled to adopt them, on becoming head of the family.

A SEEKER AFTER TRUTH, Oxford.—The pedestal of the statue of Charles I., at Charing-cross, was certainly sculptured by Marshall, as proved by the account of the expenses of the Paymaster of the Board of Works, preserved in the Audit-office, and recently printed, by Mr. P. Cunningham, in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. When may possibly have designed the pedestal.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER.—*Arms* of Shelley: "Sa. a fesse engr. between three whelk shells or. Crest: a griffin's head erased arg. beaked and ducally gorged or."

A. P. G.—Lord Campbell was Lord Chancellor of Ireland in 1841. Lord Denman never was Lord Chancellor. He obtained his peerage in 1834, being then Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

A SUBSCRIBER.—A lady, without title or courtesy style, marrying the younger son of an Earl, becomes entitled to the prefix of "Honourable" during her husband's lifetime and her widowhood; but she forfeits it on again marrying with a commoner.

EDWARD COPLAND.—If the second picture is taken at the same distance from the object, but with an alteration of the angle of about 20°, a stereoscopic pair of photographs will be obtained. The proto-nitrate of iron is employed by the best manipulators for developing the collodion pictures positively.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER, Woodbridge.—"Hunt's Manual of Photography"—"Horne and Thornthwaite's Instructions in Photography." The question of the Daguerreotype patent is in abeyance; the process is extensively practised without a license.

MAXWELL.—The lamp-black, wherever it may be obtained, must be absolutely free from any gritty or sharp particles.

J. R. T.—Photography offers the only means for quickly and accurately obtaining views on paper.

A SAILOR, at Sheerness; and J. D., Isle of Wight, declined.

C. J. C., Plymouth, should address his complaint to the General Post-office.

T. H., Islington.—Under way is the proper seaman's phrase.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER will, perhaps, send further particulars of the steam-engine improvement.

G. J., Edinburgh.—"Alison's History of Europe." Foucault's Pendulum Experiment was made in 1851. (See "Quarterly Review" of that year; also, a *precis* of the results of the several Experimenters, 10 pages, in the "Year-book of Facts," 1852.)

A. B. Z.—The value of your Hogarth's prints depends upon the state of the impressions. Show them to a printseller.

J. S.—The lines "The Return of the Dove" are by Chas. Mackay, LL.D.

D. J. O.—The gentleman in question is an Albino.

FRANCIS DOBBIE.—See the glyptographic process described in the specification of the patent.

ZETA.—The marks may be removed by chloride of lime.

LL. B. F.—A key to "Coningsby" was published soon after the first appearance of that novel.

ENQUIRER.—"Entire," or entire butt, was the name given to a liquor partaking of the flavours of ale, beer, and twopenny, by Harwood, the brewer, about 1730.

A SINGER.—Wade's "Handbook to the Pianoforte."

OMEGA.—For a list of Schools, see Low's "Charities of London," or the "Family Almanack and Educational Register" for 1853.

J. W. W., Hull.—Spoonfuls is used by Arbuthnot, a writer of sound English.

OCTAVIUS W.—See the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK for 1846, for the origin of "All Fools' Day."

S. C., Leeds.—Hippolytus was the son of Theseus and Hippolyte, and Aricia the name of the city rebuilt in Italy. (See Dymock's "Bibliotheca Classica"); a so, Galignani's "Picture of Paris.")

H. H. O.—The line,
Men are but children of a larger growth,
is from Dryden's play of "All for Love."

E. L. D. D.—See "Hunt's Guide to Photography." Third Edition.—Griffin and Co.

SHORT-HAND, Warwick.—See "Short Short-hand," lately published.

NEW YORK.—Apply to an American bookseller.

W. B., Usk.—See Mitchell's "Ball-room Companion."

M. B. L.—"Logic is the art of thinking and reasoning justly."—Watts.

A. L., Leicester.—See the "Treatises on Sheep and Cattle," in the "Farmers' Library."

A CONSTANT READER.—Members of the House of Commons do not receive any remuneration for serving on private committees.

ARTISTIC.—Address, Mr. George Cruikshank, 86, Fleet-street.

ALPHA, Greenwich.—Apply respecting the annuity for a professional man, at the Athenaeum Institute, Sackville-street, Piccadilly.

J. R.—"So much for Buckingham," in "Richard III.," is not Shakespeare's, but one of Cibber's interpolations.

KATHLEEN.—See the "Illustrated London Cookery-book."

F. S., Torquay, is thanked. We have not space for his letter.

A SUBSCRIBER.—Mrs. Chisholm's address is Angel-terrace, Islington.

J. A. B., E. S., United Service Club.—See Webster's "English Dictionary," or Richardson's.

SIGMA, Edinburgh.—Hunt's "Guide to Photography," published by Griffin and Co., Glasgow.

BILBAO, Spain, is thanked; but we have not room for the Sketches.

A SUBSCRIBER, Bristol.—Apply for Ca type Slides for the Stereoscope to Horne, Thornthwaite, and Co., Newgate-street.

A CORRESPONDENT, who inquires for a short work on "Taxidermy," will find some useful "directions for collecting zoological specimens" in the "Companion to the Almanack for 1838;" they are compiled principally from Dufrene's "Taxidermie," Dr. Chichester's "Instructions," and Samouelle's little work.

B. B., Upton.—The couplet
For be that fights and runs away
May live to fight another day,
is not from "Hudibras," but from the "Musarum Deliciae," 12mo, 1656; but a correspondent of "Notes and Queries," No. 12, traces it to the following apophthegm, in a collection first printed by Grafton, in 1542:—
That same man that runneth awale,
Maye again fight, another daie.

P. R.—See Sharpe's "Gazetteer," lately published in two large vols., 8vo. G. C., Great Milton, Oxon.—The office of Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping is at No. 2, White-lion-court, Cornhill.

W. W., Glasgow.—Declined. I G. S., Stepney.—Received.

Mr. Bacon writes to state that his statue of "Helen Veiled before Paris" was modelled previous to the Great Exhibition of 1851; but that he was deterred from sending it there, because he could not obtain for it the situation which he considered it was entitled to.

WITH THIS WEEK'S "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS" IS PUBLISHED A SUPPLEMENT, GRATIS.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1853.

THE "Turkish difficulty," and the mission of Prince Menschikoff to Constantinople, which at one period threatened to disturb the peace of Europe, will have one satisfactory result, if they relieve Christendom from the scandal which the quarrels of certain Christian sects in the Holy City have brought upon the Christian faith. The dreadful scenes of which the Church of the Holy Sepulchre has been the arena, the superstitious practices of the rival sects, and their wretched bickerings and vindictive jealousies, have long excited the supreme contempt of the Jews and Mahometans in the Holy City, while their irreconcilable pretensions have occasioned incessant trouble and annoyance to the Ministers of the Porte.

Difficulties of no ordinary magnitude present themselves in the way of an amicable and final settlement of this question, arising not less from the arrogant and conflicting claims of the Christian communities who have established themselves in the Holy Shrines of Palestine, than from the political and religious policy and pretensions of the two Great European Powers who respectively protect the Greek and Latin Churches of the East.

Ever since the reign of Francis I. the Kings of France have, by treaty, claimed the right to be the Protectors of the Holy Places, and of the Latin monks who guarded them. The Greeks have, of late years, by means of firmans from the Porte, successfully contested with the Roman Catholics the right to the exclusive guardianship of the Shrines; and the Greek monks proceeded from one encroachment to another until Louis Napoleon, listening to the urgent representations of every French traveller to the Holy Land, has vindicated his title of "hereditary Protector of the Catholics in the East." The Emperor of Russia, on the other hand, as "the Sovereign of the greater number of the followers of the Greek Church," has always abetted the claims of the Greeks, as well because millions of his subjects feel the deepest religious interest in the guardianship of the Holy Shrines, as because Russia has long had its eye upon Palestine, and would not fail, in any partition of the Turkish Empire, to contest the claims of any other Power to the possession of Syria. Recent travellers inform us that the Greek clergy, a few years ago, while infusing education among the rising generation of Mahometans, took care to propagate the notion that the Grand Duke Michael was the second Michael designed by certain Greek interpretations of the Prophecies, as the person who was to wrest the sway of Syria from the Mahometans, and establish the Russian Government on the ruins of the Turkish Empire.

It may seem matter of regret that the Holy Land should still remain the territory of a Mahometan power. But the animosities and intrigues of the Christians compel every traveller of fairness and moderation to avow the conviction that the Turks are for the present the best and safest guardians for the Holy Places, and that the control of an infidel, and, therefore, indifferent arbiter is necessary to restrain within some bounds those vindictive feuds which have occasionally broken out into acts of open and even fatal violence. The moment seems favourable for renewing the negotiations which were commenced in 1819 between France, Russia, and the Porte; with a view to define the prerogatives and possessions of the rival sects, but which were unfortunately interrupted by the battle of Navarino.

The claims of the Latin Church, as they were defined by M. de Marcellus from an investigation upon the spot, show, if they prove nothing else, how many absurd and unreasonable pretensions each community must be prepared to concede before a satisfactory conclusion can be arrived at. That the Christian sects who wrangle with each other in the Sacred City could be brought to any common agreement upon the multitudinous and pitiful subjects of dispute between them is not to be expected. But both the Czar and Louis Napoleon are, fortunately, potentates with sufficient strength of will to disregard the jealousies and heart-burnings which have brought scandal upon the Greek and Latin churches; and they would earn the gratitude of every European nation if they would determine to put an end to these melancholy religious dissensions. France and Russia might define the prerogatives, and establish a common enjoyment of the Holy Places, by the rival sects; but no settlement would be likely to be satisfactory, unless by a liberal subvention the Greek and Latin monks, who at present act as *custodes* of the Holy Shrines, could be removed, and their places filled by ecclesiastics selected by the Greek and Latin churches for their piety and moderation, and strangers to the miserable feuds and jealousies of their predecessors.

The festivities of Easter have been agreeably marked by the arrival of intelligence which gives reason to anticipate the cessation of hostilities in two distant portions of our Colonial empire towards which public attention has been of late painfully directed. The termination of the Kaffir war and the Burmese war, and the harassing, expensive, and inglorious campaigns by which they have been attended, has diffused general joy throughout the Empire, and will enable Ministers to meet Parliament on Monday with increased confidence. The news from the Cape appears to us more hopeful and decisive than it is regarded by some of our contemporaries. Sandilli has retreated from Kaffraria, and has signified his submission; he has retired across the Kei with Macomo and other chiefs. The independent chief, Kreli, has sent a bundle of assegais in token of his submission; so that the Kaffir war may now be considered at an end. The Kaffirs have shown remarkable bravery and cunning throughout the last war; and we now possess this additional guarantee for pacific relations between them and the colonists—that both races must respect the valour and prowess of the other—a conviction which often prevents nations, as well as individual combatants, from rashly engaging in conflicts. If it should be found that our frontier is, from its extent, indefensible without the maintenance of a large military force, we cannot doubt that our Government, warned by the past, will abandon a barren and useless territory, which would have been dearly purchased at a tithe of the blood and treasure expended on our wars with the Kaffirs.

The approaching termination of the Burmese War is attributable as much to civil commotion and intestine dissension as to the strategy of General Godwin and the success of the British arms. There is reason to suppose that the Emperor of Ava has been deposed by his brother, who has sent an embassy to the British. If the Governor-General should recognise his pretensions, and place him, with the assistance of the disaffected Burmese, upon the throne of Ava, the Government of India will probably establish a Resident at the capital, and security will be taken for the establishment of pacific relations between Ava and the British power in India.

To the loss of Major Hogge, Major Wilmot, and other officers at the Cape, and the death of Admiral Austen, by cholera, at Rangoon, is now to be added the death of Captain Loch, R.N., Lieutenant Kennedy, R.N., and Captain Pryce, in a boating expedition against a Burmese robber chief. The British lost 88 in killed and wounded before the order was given for the boats to retire. The loss of so many valuable lives, while it tempers the joy with which the Burmese news would otherwise have been received, will increase the desire that the next mail may bring us more conclusive news of the termination of hostilities with these obscure but desperate and barbarous enemies.

THE COURT.

Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, with the youthful members of the Royal family, left Windsor Castle at half-past two o'clock on Thursday afternoon, on their return to Buckingham Palace. The Royal party travelled by a special train on the Great Western Railway, and were escorted from Paddington by a detachment of Light Dragoons.

The incidents of Court life during the week have been almost exclusively confined to the domestic circle. The Earl of Aberdeen arrived at the Castle on Saturday last, and remained the guest of her Majesty until Monday.

On Sunday the Queen and the Prince with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, and accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, the Earl of Aberdeen, and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, attended divine service in the private chapel of the Castle.

On Monday the Queen, with the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, took a drive in an open carriage and four. The Prince Consort accompanied her Majesty on horseback. In the afternoon the Duke of Newcastle arrived on a visit to the Queen. The Duchess of Kent and the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe, joined the Royal dinner party in the evening.

On Tuesday morning the Queen and the younger portion of the Royal family walked in the Home Park. The Prince Consort rode out on horseback, attended by Capt. the Hon. Dudley De Ros. The Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred also rode out, attended by Mr. Gibbs. In the afternoon Earl Granville arrived on a visit to her Majesty. The Duchess of Kent and the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe again joined the Royal dinner party this evening.

On Wednesday the Queen and the Prince Consort took a drive in an open carriage and four. Earl Granville took his departure this morning, and Sir James Graham arrived at the Castle.

Yesterday (Friday) the Queen held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace.

Since the fire in the Prince of Wales's Tower, the Royal dinners have been served in the Oak Dining-room.

Lord Water-ark has succeeded Lord Camoys as Lord in Waiting, and Colonel the Hon. R. Boyle has succeeded Major-General Berkeley Drummond as Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

His Excellency the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewska, arrived in town on Thursday evening, from visiting the Earl and Countess of Sandwich, at Hinchinbrooke.

The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, and Lady Adeline Fitzalan Howard, arrived in town on Thursday, from Arundel Castle.

The Duke and Duchess of Sutherland have been passing the recess at Stafford-house. Lady Blantyre is not yet perfectly recovered from the severe illness from which she suffered a short time since.

The Marquis of Lansdowne has issued invitations for a Cabinet dinner on Wednesday next, at Lansdowne House.

The Earl and Countess of Clarendon have returned to town from visiting the Earl and Countess of Verulam at Gorhambury.

The Earl of Derby returned to St. Leonard's-hill, near Windsor, on Friday, from visiting Lord and Lady Southampton, at Whitlebury-lodge, Northamptonshire.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston come to town to-day (Saturday), from Broadlands.

Lady John Russell gave birth to a daughter on Monday last, at Pembroke Lodge. Her Ladyship and the infant are going on very favourably.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mrs. Gladstone return to town to-day (Saturday) from visiting the Right Hon. Sydney Herbert, M.P., and Mrs. Herbert, at Wilton-house, near Salisbury. The Chancellor gives a grand dinner this evening (Saturday) to a large party of his political friends. Mrs. Gladstone has issued cards for assemblies on Wednesday next, and on Wednesday the 13th instant.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli, M.P., and Mrs. Disraeli have been passing the recess with the Duke and Duchess of Richmond at Goodwood.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 31.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Tempo- rature of the Day.	Departure of Tempera- ture from Average.	Degrees of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow and Rain in Inches.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Mar. 25	29.856	43.7	17.7	29.6	— 12.9	76	N.E.	0.03
" 26	29.983	45.9	23.8	33.7	— 9.0	73	N.E.	0.00
" 27	30.064	50.9	24.9	37.0	— 5.8	77	N.W.	0.02
" 28	30.156	57.1	29.7	41.7	— 1.3	81	E.S.E.	0.00
" 29	30.139	51.3	27.3	39.2	— 4.0	58	S.E.	0.00
" 30	29.814	58.7	29.0	43.5	+ 0.2	68	S.E.	0.00
" 31	29.717	57.9	34.0	46.3	+ 2.9	62	S.S.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The mean reading of the barometer for the week, at the height of 32 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.961 inches. The weather, during the former part of the week, was extremely severe; and the reading of the thermometer on the 25th descended to 17.7°, which is the lowest reading attained this winter. The mean temperature of this day was 29.6° only, being 12.9° below its average of thirty-eight years. The lowest mean daily temperature of the several 25ths of March since the year 1814, was 32.2°, which took place in the year 1837. From March 15 to the end of the month the average daily deficiency of temperature has been 6.6°. The mean temperature of the week was 33.9°, being 4.3° below the average of thirty-eight years. The range of temperature during the week has been very large, the highest reading being 58.7° on the 30th; and the lowest 17.7° on the 25th; showing the large range of 41°. The differences of temperature daily have also been very great; that on the 30th being nearly 30°, and the mean of the week being 25.6°, which is 13.4° above the average of the twelve preceding weeks. Snow fell early, on the 25th, which, together with some slight rain in the afternoon of the 27th, produced five-hundredths of an inch of water. The mean reading of the barometer for the month of March at the level of the sea was 29.791 inches. The mean temperature of the air was 33.9°, being 2.9° below the average of thirty-eight years, and the coldest March since the year 1845, when the mean temperature was 35.4°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 36.2°. The mean degree of humidity was 82°; complete saturation being represented by 100. The mean daily range of temperature was 17.8°; and rain fell to the depth of 1.4 inch.

Lewisham, April 1, 1853.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending March 26, the births of 752 boys, and of 728 girls (in all, 1480 children), were registered in the metropolitan districts. The average number in the eight corresponding weeks of the eight preceding years, was 1556. The number of deaths was 1321, exceeding the number in the preceding week by 47, and that of the average in the same week in the preceding ten years, corrected for increase of population by 39. To zymotic diseases there were 233 deaths, their average is 205; of these 5 are referred to small-pox, whose average is 15; to measles 16, its average is 20; to scarlatina 37, its average is 27; to hooping-cough 65, its average is 48; to typhus 53, its average is 42. To tubercular diseases 217 deaths, their average is 198; of these, 153 are referred to consumption, whose average is 141. To diseases of the brain, nerves, &c., there were 145 deaths, their average is 138; of these, 24 are due to apoplexy; 20 to delirium tremens; 54 to convulsions; and 19 to disease of brain. There were 55 to disease of the heart and blood-vessels, of which 52 are referred to the former disease. There were 322 to diseases of the lungs, and of the organs of respiration, their average is 207; of these, 175 are referred to bronchitis (one of which was that of a female at the advanced age of 102 years); and 53 deaths are referred to violence, privation, cold, and intemperance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE IMPROVEMENTS.—The extensive works which have been going on for some time past at Buckingham Palace, in Arabella-row, Piccadilly, have so far progressed towards completion, that the whole of the extensive and massive scaffolding has been entirely removed, and the new building, so far as the outer portion is concerned, is to all appearance entirely finished. The removal of this wooden framework shows the addition which has been made to the Palace for the convenience and comfort of her Majesty and the Royal Family to the fullest advantage. It is superior in architectural beauty and finish to the other portions of the Palace, and combines simplicity of design with great neatness of execution. The summit of the new building is ornamented with four groups of emblematical devices, illustrative of the military and naval prowess, &c., of Great Britain, and sets the whole off to good advantage. Two handsome and separate entrance-lobes have been built for the convenience of ingress and egress to this new portion of the Palace.

APSLEY HOUSE.—This mansion was finally closed to public visitors on Saturday last. The original concession to the general desire to view the chief home of the illustrious departed extended only to the end of January, but the Duke of Wellington most liberally enlarged the period. It is very gratifying to add, with his Grace's sanction, that although many thousands of persons have been admitted, and although all classes were impartially included, the Duke has, in no instance, been led to regret his liberality by any misconduct or indecorum on the part of the visitors.

DOWNING-STREET.—The improvements for some time being carried out in the official residence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in Downing-street, are nearly completed. The whole of them, including the new and costly furniture, were from the designs of Mr. Disraeli.

STATUE OF SIR ROBERT PEEL.—The statue of the late Sir Robert Peel, by Behnes, is rapidly approaching to completion. It will be cast in bronze at the foundry of Messrs. Robinson and Co., Piccadilly, and is of colossal size, standing ten feet in height, exclusive of the pedestal. This very fine specimen of art is to be erected in the open space opposite the Mansion-house, on the spot where the lamp now stands, and which is to be taken down, in order to make room for it. When finished it will enhance the fame of the artist, and add another striking and splendid ornament to the metropolis.

NEW THOROUGHFARE, KING'S-CROSS.—A new carriage-way to the station at King's-cross has just been completed, which will be of great advantage to vehicles proceeding to and from the terminus. The new road way has been formed into the Old Pancras-road, directly opposite the arrival entrance of the station, and is constructed on the sites of some old low shops which formerly stood there. It will greatly relieve the overcrowding of vehicles at Battle-bridge, as all traffic between the station and the southern and western parts of the metropolis will be able to avoid the dangerous detour round the triangle at King's-cross, of which the new approach forms the base.

DINNER AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—The Easter banquet given by the Lord Mayor to her Majesty's Ministers came off on Monday, with the usual éclat. It was well attended. Sir James Graham responded to the toast, "The Army and Navy," and was very laudatory in his reference to those professions. The Earl of Aberdeen, in responding to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers," took occasion to refer to the national prosperity, and to state that it would be the earnest endeavour of her Majesty's Government to preserve that state of peace, without the aid of which they would never have enjoyed the blessings they now possessed; and endeavour, also, to protect and extend, as far as lay in their power, the commerce of this country in every quarter of the globe. Earl Granville, in acknowledging "The House of Lords," adverted to the changed public feeling in respect to the usefulness of that branch of the Legislature. The Duke of Argyll proposed "The Health of the Lord Mayor," and said that, he believed that the progress of commerce, if conducted by high principle, and in a Christian spirit, would lead to the great diminution, if not extinction, of those wars which had hitherto desolated the world. The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Cardwell also addressed the assembly—the former adverted to the desire of different parties to participate in some imagined surplus of the public revenue, which very commonly outran the care to inquire where that surplus existed, or what was its extent.

EQUALIZATION OF THE POOR-RATE.—A public meeting of the City of London Union Rating Association was held on Tuesday evening at the New Court, Old Bailey, for the purpose of considering the propriety of adopting a petition to Parliament in favour of repealing the existing laws of settlement and removal, and for the more equitable distribution of the charge for the relief and maintenance of the poor; Alderman Thomas Sidney in the chair. Resolutions and a petition in accordance with the object of the meeting were passed unanimously, and the meeting separated.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.—On Wednesday night the governors and friends of this institution, to the number of upwards of a hundred, celebrated the ninety-fifth anniversary of the charity by dining together in the London Tavern. The Lord Mayor occupied the chair, and among the gentlemen present we observed Mr. Oliveira, M.P.; Mr. Fellatt, M.P.; Mr. T. M. Coombe, Mr. Smith, and others. Nearly £700 were added to the funds during the evening.

A grand ball, under the most distinguished patronage, is fixed to take place at Willis's-rooms on Thursday, the 7th of April. The ball is in aid of the funds of the German Hospital. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge has signified his intention of being present at the festival, and it is anticipated a very large number of the aristocracy will attend.

ROYAL GENERAL DISPENSARY.—A public dinner of the friends of the above charity was held on Wednesday, at the Queen's Head, St. Martin's-le-Grand, for the purpose of presenting Mr. T. B. Stott, the resident apothecary, with a silver tea and coffee service, as a mark of their esteem for his public worth and private virtues.

SCOTTISH HOSPITAL.—On Wednesday, the usual quarterly court of this corporation was held in the board-room, Crane-court, for the purpose of taking into consideration a motion made by the Rev. Dr. Cumming, to erect a model lodging-house for the recipients of the bounty of this corporation. The financial statement for the past quarter showed the total receipts to be £1236 11s. 6d. There had been expended in charity £839 9s. 6d.; leaving a balance in hand of £227 17s. 10d. The motion for the new dwellings was adjourned to the 19th inst., when it was hoped that Dr. Cumming would attend.

STATIONERS' MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY.—The eighth anniversary festival of this useful institution was celebrated on Wednesday evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern; Mr. F. Wyatt Truscott presiding, in consequence of Mr. Charles Venables, who had promised to take the chair, having met with a severe accident. During the evening, a very liberal subscription was raised in aid of the funds. The chairman was supported by Messrs. Mitchell, Nicholls, Escott, J. Coggin, Newman, Ford, Coffin, and about 130 other friends and members of the institution.

THE BOTTLE QUESTION.—At the late sitting of the licensing magistrates for Marylebone, the Bench called the attention of publicans to the agitation which had arisen regarding the sale of ale and porter in bottles of less capacity than the imperial measure of the same denomination; and strongly recommended them to endeavour, by every possible means, to vend only such as were of imperial measure.

REVISION OF THE STATUTE.—Mr. Chisholm Anstey, late M.P., has been appointed one of the commissioners to revise the statutes. The first meeting of the commissioners was held on Thursday.

THE FAIR IN THE THAMES TUNNEL.—On Saturday last the annual fair in the Thames Tunnel closed, after five days' amusement, during which time upwards of 40,000 persons passed through the Tunnel: it was most brilliantly illuminated in oil and gas devices. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr. Moscheles Perry. The decorations in the tunnel were also kept on view during the Easter holidays.

BURIALS IN MARYLEBONE.—On Saturday last a meeting of the parochial authorities was held at the Court-house, Marylebone, for the purpose of taking steps to close the vaults under the parish church, Christ Church, of Trinity Church, and St. John's Wood Chapel. The report of the committee, which recommended the closing of the vaults under the above churches, and that, when interments should take place in the unoccupied portions of them, they should only be used as catacombs and be hermetically sealed, was unanimously adopted.

MUNIFICENT BEQUEST.—A munificent bequest has just been distributed amongst the City charities by the trustees of the will of Miss Hardwick, late of Chesterfield, in Derbyshire. This lady's father was in early life a surgeon in the mercantile navy, and afterwards carried on business in Bishopsgate-street as a chemist. Miss Hardwick, his only daughter, at his death withdrew herself from the world, and lived in a small cottage, while her property was permitted to accumulate. She died in the mayoralty of Alderman Hunter, leaving the bulk of her property to the Lord Mayor and the Chamberlain for the time being, to act with her executor, Mr. Joseph Shipton, an eminent solicitor at Chesterfield, as trustees, to be distributed amongst such of the charities of the city of London as they might in their discretion select for the purpose. The total amount of the money to be so distributed amounted to about £22,000; and, among educational charities, ranges from £1100 to Christ's Hospital; to £105 to a Ragged School; in medical, and other charities, from £1100 to St. Bartholomew's Hospital; to £110 to a Precinct Infant's School.

INCREASE OF POST-OFFICE BUSINESS.—In 1840 it was said that 4000 letters left London daily—and the entire number amounted to 76,000,000 annually. The next year, at the reduced rate, they were more than doubled; and every year the increase has risen higher. During the last six years the average increase amounts to no less than 260,000 letters and 14,000 newspapers daily. The number of letters which will pass through the General Post-office in the present year will be about 95,000,000—the newspapers nearly 2,000,000—over and above the numbers which passed through it in 1846. The Report of the Post-office of the United States for twelve months ending the 30th June, 1852, shows that the number of letters that passed through the American post-offices was under 96,000,000, or less than a quarter of the number transmitted in this kingdom; but it is worthy of notice that 88,710,490 newspaper and other packages of printed matter were charged with postage during the year, and that, in addition, 27,073,548 passed free.

SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS.—The following notice has been issued by the General Post Office:—"In order to facilitate the sale of postage stamps and to promote the public convenience, licenses for the sale of postage stamps are now granted, free of expense, by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, to all respectable persons who apply for them."

A MAN SUFFOCATED IN FLOUR.—On Saturday, a singular accident occurred to a man named Beal, employed at the Steam Flour Mills, in Upper Thames-street. Beal was employed in shovelling flour through an aperture to a lower floor. The aperture through which he was shovelling became clogged; and, whilst removing it, some meal from a still higher loft fell upon him, and precipitated him, through the aperture into a heap of flour, amounting to about 100 sacks, and before he could be got out, he was suffocated.

STEALING NEWSPAPERS.—At Bow-street, on Monday, Edward Jackson, a porter in the service of Mr. Wylde, newsmen, of Catherine-street, was charged with stealing 22 copies of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. The case was proved by John Kelly, one of Mr. Wylde's assistants, who detected the prisoner in the act of concealing the stolen property under the counter, while engaged in folding papers. It appeared that the prisoner had formerly opened a small shop in the same line, in consequence of which he was required to give up his situation, but subsequently he was taken into the same employ again. He was committed for trial.

STEREOSCOPIC PORTRAIT OF THE FRENCH EMPEROR.—Mr. Kilburn, the eminent photographer, of Regent's-street, has recently invented an extremely convenient and portable form of stereoscope, and, at the suggestion of a scientific friend, has applied it in realising a very striking portrait of the French Emperor. It appears that Mr. Kilburn took two portraits of Louis Napoleon in the course of the latter's stay in London; both admirable likenesses, and which, by a happy accident, were in such relative positions, that, although not exactly of a size, upon being adjusted to the same scale, they became available for stereoscopic purposes; and a representation has thus been produced of one of the most remarkable men of the age, which approaches as nearly as can be conceived to the appearance of real life.

ELECTION MATTERS.—South Hants: It is announced that the Hon. Mr. Dutton, son of Lord Sherborne, will be a candidate for the representation on South Hants at the next election. The Hon. gentleman will support the present Ministry. —Huddersfield: Mr. Willans has withdrawn from the field, and his friends have introduced Viscount Goderich, late M.P. for Hull. Mr. Starkey's friends are determined to fight vigorously. —Blackburn: Although the election for Blackburn concluded on Thursday week, the rioting continued till Saturday, and much damage was done to several houses; but no lives were lost. —Committees will be appointed on the re-assembling of the House after Easter, to inquire into the allegations contained in the petitions against the return of members for the following places:—Dartmouth, Taunton, Leicester, Tynemouth, Cockermouth, and Athlone. —Notices have been given that it is not intended to proceed with the petitions in the following cases:—Tipperary, Knaresborough (defence of return of Mr. B. T. Wood), Southampton (return of Mr. Cochrane), Westmeath, and Meath.

COINS OF CANUTE.—The recent find of this Danish King is erroneously stated to have taken place at Wigmore, Wilts, instead of Wedmore, Somerset, where a small jar containing 120 pieces of silver, of the reign of Canute, was found in the churchyard, three or four feet from the surface.

TESTIMONIAL.—A massive silver inkstand has been presented to the Rev. John Lyons, M.A., upon his exchange of the incumbency of St. Marks, Whitechapel, for the Vicarage of Tillingham, Essex, in remembrance of his faithful instructions during the past six years.

EARTHQUAKE IN THE EASTERN SEAS.—A dreadful earthquake—or, rather, a violent commotion of nature—has taken place in the Indian Archipelago. It began on the 26th November, and lasted until the 22nd December. The sea was frightfully agitated: several ships have been destroyed, and upwards of sixty lives lost. The principal place of destruction was Banda Neira.

The will of the late Joel Emanuel, of Bury-street, St. Mary Axe, London, has lately been proved at Doctors' Commons. Mr. Emanuel was considered one of the most wealthy members of the Jewish persuasion in England. He has left the great bulk of his real and personal property amongst the members of his family, but has bequeathed several sums in charity, amongst others, the sum of £10 19s. to each of the following institutions; viz:—The Jewish Synagogue, at Steinhart, in Bavaria; the Jewish Synagogue, at Duke's-place, London; the Jewish Hospital, at Mile-end; the Jewish Female School, at Bell-square, Spitalfields; the Jewish Infant Orphan School, at Tenter-ground, Goodman's-fields; the London Hospital; and the Hebrew College, at Smith's-buildings, Leadenhall-street. The personal property has been sworn under £80,000, which sum is exclusive of the very extensive freehold estates of the deceased.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The racing appointments for the ensuing week are confined to Croxton-park meeting (on Tuesday and Wednesday), and the "Great Metropolitan" on Epsom Downs (on Thursday), where a fine day's sport may be anticipated. The Steeple-chases to come off are the Cheltenham (on Tuesday and Wednesday) and Epsom (on Friday). The Coursing season in England is over, and in Ireland it will terminate with the Cork (Southern) Club meeting, on Tuesday.

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—The attendance was unusually full, and the business transacted on the Handicap at Northampton led to the extension of the field, and some alteration; the general betting, however, being dull. Latest prices:—

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.		
9 to 2 agst Defiance	12 to 1 agst Tobolski (t)	12 to 1 agst Alp (t)
7 to 1 — Delshick	12 to 1 — E. n. yon (t)	12 to 1 — Postulant (t)
8 to 1 — Hobby Horse	12 to 1 — Happy Joe (t)	16 to 1 — Lady Blanche
WHITTEBURY STAKES.		
3 to 1 agst Lady Audrey	7 to 2 agst Charley (t)	
METROPOLITAN HANDICAP.		
6 to 1 agst Contentment (t)	7 to 1 agst Snowden Dunhill	14 to 1 agst Peggy (t)
	16 to 1 agst Terpsichore	
CITY AND SUBURBAN HANDICAP.—10 to 1 agst Juvence		
12 to 1 agst Trifle		35 to 1 agst Little Jack
CHESTER CUP.		
9 to 1 agst West Australian	12 to 1 agst Orpheus (t)	16 to 1 agst The Reiver
12 to 1 — China	15 to 1 — Honeywood	

NORTHAMPTON AND PITCHLEY HUNT RACES.

WEDNESDAY.
TRIAL STAKES.—Longbow, 1. Conmore, 2.
WHITTEBURY STAKES.—Brigliadoro, 1. Lady Audrey, 2.
GREAT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.—Defiance, 1. Hobby Horse, 2.
Twenty started.
THIRD YEAR OF THE TRIENNIAL STAKES.—Francis, 1. Convulsion, 2.
HER MAJESTY'S PLATE.—Weatherage, 1. Deerhound, 2.
PITCHLEY STAKES.—Shipwreck, 1. Janina, 2.
THURSDAY.
CUP STAKES.—Sharavogue, 1. Perfidious, 2.
EARL SPENCER'S PLATE.—Ephesus, 1. Ernestine, 2.

PRIZE FOR ENGLISH HORSES AT CHANTILLY.—The Emperor has presented the sum of 10,000 francs (£4000) to be run for by horses of all countries, at the Chantilly Autumn Meeting, in October next. The prize will be added to a sweepstakes of £20 each, h ft.; the second to receive £80 out of the stakes; three year olds to carry 97 lb., four 103 lb., five 109 lb., and six and upwards 118 lb. English horses to carry 10 lbs extra; and winners, in England, of £600, to carry 17 lb. extra. Continental bred horses that have never won a prize of the value of 7000 francs (£280) to be allowed, three year olds 7 lb., four and upwards 10 lb. Distance 3200 metres (nearly two miles). Engagements to be made on or before 1st of August.

CHESS-CLUB AT HALIFAX, BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.—We are gratified to hear that a chess-club, under the patronage of Sir Gaspard Le Marchant, has recently been formed at this place, with every prospect of success. The following gentlemen were elected officers for the first year with unanimous approbation:—President, Dr. F. W. Morris; vice-president, W. A. Johnson, Esq.; treasurer, E. Bunney, Esq.; secretary, F. Cochran, Esq. On feature connected with this institution, which might be advantageously imitated by the chess-clubs of Europe, is the appointment of a committee to instruct the younger members in the principles and ground-work of the game.

SOUTHAMPTON CHESS-CLUB.—The first chess soirée, in connection with this club, is appointed to be held at the Victoria-rooms, Southampton, on Tuesday, April the 12th, 1853. Play to commence at three p.m. For full particulars, parties should apply to the secretary, Mr. W. Sharland.

UNIVERSITY TESTS.—A meeting of the students of the Glasgow University was held on Friday night, in the hall of the Andersonian University, for the purpose of agreeing to resolutions for the abolition of tests in reference to lay professors in the Scottish Universities. A considerable number of students were present. An amendment in favour of a continuance of tests was moved; but the motion was carried by a majority. A number of other resolutions following up the first were agreed to.

ROLLS AND RECORDS (CHESTER CASTLE).—There has just been published a Parliamentary paper containing a report on the records now lying in Chester Castle. The report is made by Mr. Black, assistant record-keeper. It would take about twelve years, and the employment of several persons, to put the records into proper order. Mr. Black mentions the circumstance of gunpowder being within a short distance of the record-rooms in so great a quantity as to occasion serious alarm for the safety, not only of the records, but of the whole city of Chester, which stands upon the same red sandstone rock on which the magazine tower is built. Mr. Black adds, "This is a subject upon which I am unwilling to commit all my thoughts to paper."

THE LABOUR MARKET.—SIGNS OF THE TIMES.—Some of the establishments in Southampton are endeavouring to prevent their clerks leaving them by inducing them to enter into bonds to remain with them a certain number of years. Mr. Mare, the eminent shipbuilder, who has commenced the building of works close to Southampton, for repairing the steamers of the General Screw Company, is about to build 100 cottages for his workmen.

A CRITICAL MISTAKE.—Mr. Macaulay, in his review of the "Pilgrim's Progress," speaking of the tediousness of the "Fairy Queen," observes, that "very few and very weary are those who are in at the death of the blatant beast." The reviewer himself, no doubt one of the few, was also one of the weary; for the blatant beast is not killed, and the very last verse extant of the poem shows us that Spenser kept him alive for good reasons of his own.—A. de Morgan; Companion to the Almanac, 1853.

CAPTURE OF A RUNAWAY BANKRUPT.—Some months since, a warehouseman, under the name of Spriggs and Co., in the City, and who had obtained goods on credit to the amount of £30,000, which he converted into cash, absconded, and embarked in the Cleopatra for Australia. A fiat in bankruptcy was filed against him, and a warrant issued for his apprehension. Mr. Charles Falconer, who was for many years attached to the Thames police, was appointed by the creditors to pursue him; and, with the concurrence of the Commissioners of Police, he embarked on board the screw-steamer Sarah Sands, for Port Phillip. The ship left Cork in October last, and arrived safe at Port Phillip, three days before the Cleopatra, and, as the fraudulent bankrupt was coming on shore, he was made prisoner, and £10,000 in cash, in his possession, seized on behalf of the creditors; he was then lodged in gaol. The bankrupt was brought before the authorities at Melbourne, and delivered into Mr. Falkner's custody for transmission to England.

ENGLISH OAK TIMBER (NAVY).—Among other Parliamentary papers is one respecting the supply of English oak timber to the Admiralty. It appears that in February, 1840, an agreement was made for 24,000 loads of timber, but reduced to 16,000; and a contract was made in 1841 for 13,812 loads; in 1843, for 20,000; in 1845, for 2625 loads; in 1846, for 20,000; 1847, for 800 to 1000; in 1848, for 5000; in 1849, for 940; and, in 1850, for 16,500 loads.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.—The Customs authorities have had under consideration a report of the Examiner, submitting an amended form of abstract of duties inwards for goods delivered from the warehouse, and they have approved of the amended form, and directed it to be transmitted to their principal officers at the several ports throughout the United Kingdom, with directions to adopt the same from and after the 5th of April next, observing that the transmission of the separate abstract sheets for goods removed, as required by a former general order, will now be unnecessary.

POSTAGE ON LETTERS TO BRAZIL.—From the 1st of April last, the British rate of postage upon letters conveyed by packet to or from Brazil will be reduced to 1s. for a letter not exceeding ½ oz.; 2s. not exceeding 1 oz.; 4s. not exceeding 2 oz.; and so on, according to the scale in operation for charging inland letters. Upon letters sent to Brazil, these rates of postage must be taken in advance. Newspapers may be forwarded to Brazil, by packet, free of postage, under the usual regulations.

MRS. BEECHER STOWE (the authoress of "Uncle Tom") is expected to arrive either to-day or Monday at Glasgow, from America. Preparations are making to receive her; and it is expected that a public reception will be given to her at the City-hall, on Wednesday next. Mrs. Stowe will be the guest of W. P. Paton, Esq., for the present.

BURNING OF THE "GOVERNOR HIGGINSON."—There is too much reason to believe that this fine ship (spoken of in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, of March 19) was fired by an incendiary rather than by accident. The ship was to sail in twelve hours, and the captain was ashore on business; but was sent for and speedily arrived; and, calling his men, made a desperate effort to confine the ravages of the fire to the fore part of the vessel. This was soon found to be impossible, and the destruction of the ship appeared inevitable. The crew, after saving all they possibly could, got on to boats and rafts, and abandoned the burning vessel, which was burned to the water's edge. It has been clearly ascertained that the fire originated immediately under the fore-castle, and suspicion points to a part of the crew who are not Europeans, and who, it is said, displayed some ill-feeling after being shipped on board. The vessel and cargo were valued at £36,000, and belonged to Messrs. Blyth and Co., of London.

TESTIMONIAL DINNER TO SIR GEORGE GREY.

The signal success attending the career of the commercial policy of Free-trade, as adopted by the Legislature and sanctioned by the people, was celebrated on Monday, at Alnwick, the chief town of the county of Northumberland, and under the very walls of the feudal fortress of the Percys. The celebration assumed the form of a testimonial dinner to Sir George Grey; the price of admission being fixed, in order to meet the wishes of all parties interested, at the comparatively low charge of 3s., wine and other alcoholic stimulants having been dispensed with; and a stanch teetotaler in practice and precept was invited to preside over the festivities of the occasion, in the person of Sir Walter Trevelyan. The dinner took place in a spacious wooden pavilion (erected for the purpose by Mr. Thompson, of Alnwick, and tastefully decorated with evergreens and artificial flowers), in the Market-place, opposite the Town-hall; and on the very spot upon which the hustings were erected at the last general election, when Sir George Grey was thrown out of the representation of the Northern Division. The place was calculated to accommodate about 1500 persons, but the number present must have very closely approached 2000, for every seat and nearly every inch of ground within it was occupied; and many were unable to obtain entrance. The tables were ranged longitudinally, with elevated cross benches at each end for the principal guests; and on each side arrangements were made for the entertainment of ladies, among whom were noticed several female members of distinguished county families. The apartment was brilliantly illuminated with gas.

On the right of the Chairman were Sir George Grey, M.P., the Earl of Carlisle, W. B. Beaumont, Esq., M.P., the Hon. and Rev. John Grey, Capt. the Hon. H. C. Grey, Rev. R. W. Goodenough, M. W. Bigge, Esq., Anthony Lambert, Esq., Hon. E. Howard, Rev. Thomas Ilderton, and Major Orde. On his left were Earl Grey, Lord Panmure, the Hon. and Rev. F. R. Grey, Rev. R. Croft, R. Ingham, Esq., M.P., J. B. Blackett, Esq., M.P., William Grey, Esq., George Wilson, Esq., Rev. Percy Gilpin, Mr. McKelvin, and Capt. Drummond.

The vice chair was occupied by Frideaux Selby, Esq., who was supported on his right by the Mayor of Newcastle (R. G. Lambert, Esq.).

The substantial portion of the repast having been discussed, the Chairman gave the usual loyal and constitutional toasts, which were responded to with enthusiasm.

Immediately afterwards, according to previous arrangement, a splendid silver Candelabrum and Salver were formally presented to Sir George Grey by Mr. Young, of Bedlington Ironworks. On the Candelabrum were represented figures of Industry, illustrative of the productive interests of the county—the village blacksmith, the agricultural labourer, and the miner. The inscription upon the Salver is as follows:—"To the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE GREY, Bart., M.P., G.C.B.: from more than 13,000 of the Working Class of Northumberland, in testimony of their gratitude for his support of the just, wise, and beneficial measures of Free-trade; and their respect for his private worth; and for the eminent integrity and ability which have distinguished his public career.—Alnwick, 25th March, 1853."

The Candelabrum and Salver were designed and manufactured by Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket, London.

Mr. Michael Young, of Bedlington, rose to present the testimonial to Sir George Grey. They were met, he said, to do honour to a distinguished statesman (Cheers); one who is admired by his friends and respected by his opponents (Applause); one who adorns and ennobles the order to which he belongs (Cheers); a friend of civil and religious liberty (Hear); and an able advocate of a policy which has conferred great and innumerable blessings on the people of this country (Loud cheers). Until lately North Northumberland was honoured in having such a statesman for one of its representatives in the House of Commons (Applause). A contrast might be drawn between him and the noble lord who had succeeded him as their representative, and he might call upon them to "look on this picture and on that" (Laughter). The question might be properly asked, Why is it that one of the most distinguished statesmen of the present day is not now one of the representatives for North Northumberland in the Commons House of Parliament, where his splendid talents and eminent abilities have won for him the admiration of all parties, and where his integrity and consistency, his high character and true patriotism, have added lustre to his fame (Applause)? The answer was at hand, and they knew it; the bond knew it as well as the free, the oppressor as well as the oppressed; it was because the voice of North Northumbrians had been stifled (Long-continued cheering).

Sir G. Grey, when the applause with which he was received had subsided, said—The circumstances under which I have now to address you are such as cannot fail to inspire me with heartfelt and peculiar gratification (Cheers). Holding no public situation, and having ceased—as you have been reminded by Mr. Young—to stand, with regard to the greater part of you, in the relation of a representative to his constituents—though I am happy to find such a feeling entertained towards me by those who were my constituents, and happy to feel that my political ties with this division of the county are still not wholly disinterested (Cheers), owing to that seat in the House of Commons which, within this division of the county, I have now the honour to hold—holding, as I say, no public situation, and no longer standing, with regard to far the greater part of you, in the relationship it was my pride and honour to hold for more than five years, I have come to-day, by your kind invitation, to receive at your hands—to receive at the hands of the working-classes of this county, represented as they have been with so much talent and ability by Mr. Young—to receive a testimonial of your approval of my public conduct during the time I held that trust you generously confided to my hands (Applause), at a moment when personally I was a stranger to most of you, and known only by the name I bear, and my public conduct in Parliament (Cheers).

I stand here to receive a testimonial that in your judgment, and in the



SILVER CANDELABRUM PRESENTED TO THE RIGHT HON. SIR GEORGE GREY, BART., M.P., G.C.B.

judgment of those 13,000 of the working-classes whom Mr. Young has represented, those measures which in my place in Parliament I felt it my duty, while one of the representatives of this division, to promote and advocate by my vote and influence—and especially those measures which relate to the financial and commercial policy of the country—were measures dictated by sound policy, and measures conducive to the permanent welfare and interest of the great body of the people of this country (Loud applause). I feel altogether undeserving of much that he has said regarding me (No, no); but I can say, I have honestly endeavoured to discharge my duty (Cheers). Gentlemen, I accept that testimonial (Applause)—valuable in itself, representing as it does the varied industry of this great county—a testimonial valuable in itself, and justly worthy of admiration in its design and execution; but to me—and I am proud to say it—possessing infinitely beyond its intrinsic value, as it will be a permanent record to me—and I hope also, with Mr. Young, to my children's children—that I have been fortunate enough to obtain what I must consider the highest prize in political life—the warm, generous, and sincere regard, and the good wishes and attachment, of that large and important industrial class of my fellow-countrymen who possess as yet no direct voice themselves in the choice of members of Parliament (Cheers); but whose interests, whose daily comforts, whose happiness and permanent welfare are intimately concerned in the good government of the country and the acts of the Legislature, and in whose moral and social well-being the prosperity of this country is so intimately bound up.

Bearing in mind the occasion on which we have met, bearing in mind the inscription placed on that testimonial, recording the opinion of those who presented it to be that those measures to which reference has been made were "wise, just, and beneficial" (Cheers), and remembering too that we are on the very spot on which the electors of North Northumberland

were assembled when I addressed them from the hustings last July, it is not possible for me to avoid making some allusion to the altered position the advocates of Free-trade now occupy, and the remarkable circumstances which since that time have occurred (Hear). There can, I think, be no doubt now entertained—though a slight attempt was made at the time to disguise it—that the real question then at issue, the question submitted for the decision of the constituencies at the last election, was whether the Free-trade policy should or should not be maintained—whether the commercial system which has been recently adopted by successive Parliaments should be upheld as conducive to the best and permanent interests of the country, or whether—as some strenuously contended—it should be reversed as prejudicial to those interests (Hear). I felt the difficulties and disadvantages which I, as a candidate, would have to encounter, avowing myself an advocate for the maintenance and extension of that system of Free-trade, and addressing myself to a constituency consisting in a great part of agriculturists.

Under these circumstances, asking, as I did, for a renewal of the trust which in 1847 was reposed in me, I felt it my duty to make a clear, unequivocal, and explicit avowal of the opinions I entertained (Cheers); and, having made that avowal, I was willing to abide whatever might be the issue of the contest (Applause). Of the result of that contest I have not the slightest reason to complain. The result was the defeat, by a small majority, of the Free-trade candidate; followed, as soon as Parliament met, by the complete, unambiguous, and unequivocal triumph of the Free-trade policy (Loud cheers). An attempt, it is true, was made by the leaders of that party once called Protectionists, to avoid an express recantation of the opinions they had long and strenuously urged on Parliament and the country; but ultimately a resolution was passed by such a majority of the new House of Commons as to amount almost to unanimity—a resolution in which stands recorded on their journals their verdict that the present commercial system of Free-trade ought to be maintained, and on the especial ground that it was conducive—eminently conducive—to the welfare and comforts of the industrious classes. The right hon. Baronet concluded (amidst rapturous cheering) a brilliant speech by declaring his resolution to promote, with all his ability, the political, social, and physical welfare of the whole body of the people.

The Vice-Chairman then proposed the health of the Lord-Lieutenant of the County, Earl Grey (Cheers).

Earl Grey said he had the greatest satisfaction in attending on this most interesting occasion. He had with the greatest pleasure joined in paying this compliment to one with whom he had been so long connected in the closest manner, both by unrivalled friendship and by complete agreement on public questions; nor had he had the less pleasure in showing his sense of respect for those with whom he had been acquainted from the outset of his political life, and from whom he had often experienced so much kindness—he meant the inhabitants of Northumberland (Cheers). The testimonial which had been presented to Sir George Grey was honourable to them as it was honourable to him. He could not but deeply regret that they had been brought together here, rather to show that they were still undismayed in spite of defeat, than to express their satisfaction at a victory (Hear). The noble Earl then proposed the health of the worthy Chairman.

The Chairman, acknowledging the toast, created some amusement, and also some embarrassment, by his warm advocacy of "temperance" doctrines.

Ralph Carr, Esq., of Hedgley, gave "The Earl of Carlisle and the House of Lords," which was received with loud applause.

The Earl of Carlisle, in responding to the toast, begged the audience not to measure either his gratitude for the very cordial reception they had given him, or his sympathy with the occasion which had now brought them together, by the brevity—the necessary brevity—of the remarks he must now address to them. But the fact was, he had been labouring under a somewhat heavy indisposition, and he happened to have rather a busy week before him; so that he ought rather to be by a very quiet fireplace—not, he could assure their worthy chairman, with any inebriating posset before him (A laugh), but in what he should quite agree with him in considering some more healthful doing—than thus to stand up in the middle of the market-place at Alnwick; at a time, too, when the unmelted snows still capped the Cheviots (Laughter). To this act of imprudence he only could have been tempted by united respect for their guest, Sir George Grey, and for their hosts, the men of Northumberland (Cheers). With respect to Sir George Grey, he felt that words were not wanting from him; for the feelings which were entertained for him were such as had brought them together, and such as now throbbed and glowed on that vast assembly, embracing so much of the industry, the enterprise, and the worth of the stout and hardy Northumbrians (Cheers).

The Hon. Charles Howard, M.P., proposed the health of Lord Panmure and the illustrious guests (Loud cheers).

Lord Panmure responded.

Robert Ingham, Esq., M.P., proposed the health of W. B. Beaumont, Esq., and the other member for South Northumberland, to which

Mr. Beaumont responded in appropriate terms.

Mr. Fenwick, Esq., proposed the health of the members for Newcastle.

Mr. Blackett, the junior member, returned thanks for himself and his colleague, Mr. Headlam, who, he said, had been prevented from attending the meeting by a severe domestic calamity.

Sir John Fife then proposed "The Members for Berwick."

Mr. Daniel Robertson gave "The Independent Electors of North Northumberland;" which was responded to by Mr. Samuel Donkin, who reminded his hearers, in alluding to a future election for North Northumberland, that so long as the same weapons remained in the hands of territorial power, which caused the last defeat, they must not be too confident of victory (Hear, hear).

Several local toasts were afterwards given, and the party separated about six o'clock.



TESTIMONIAL DINNER TO SIR GEORGE GREY, AT ALNICK, ON MONDAY LAST.

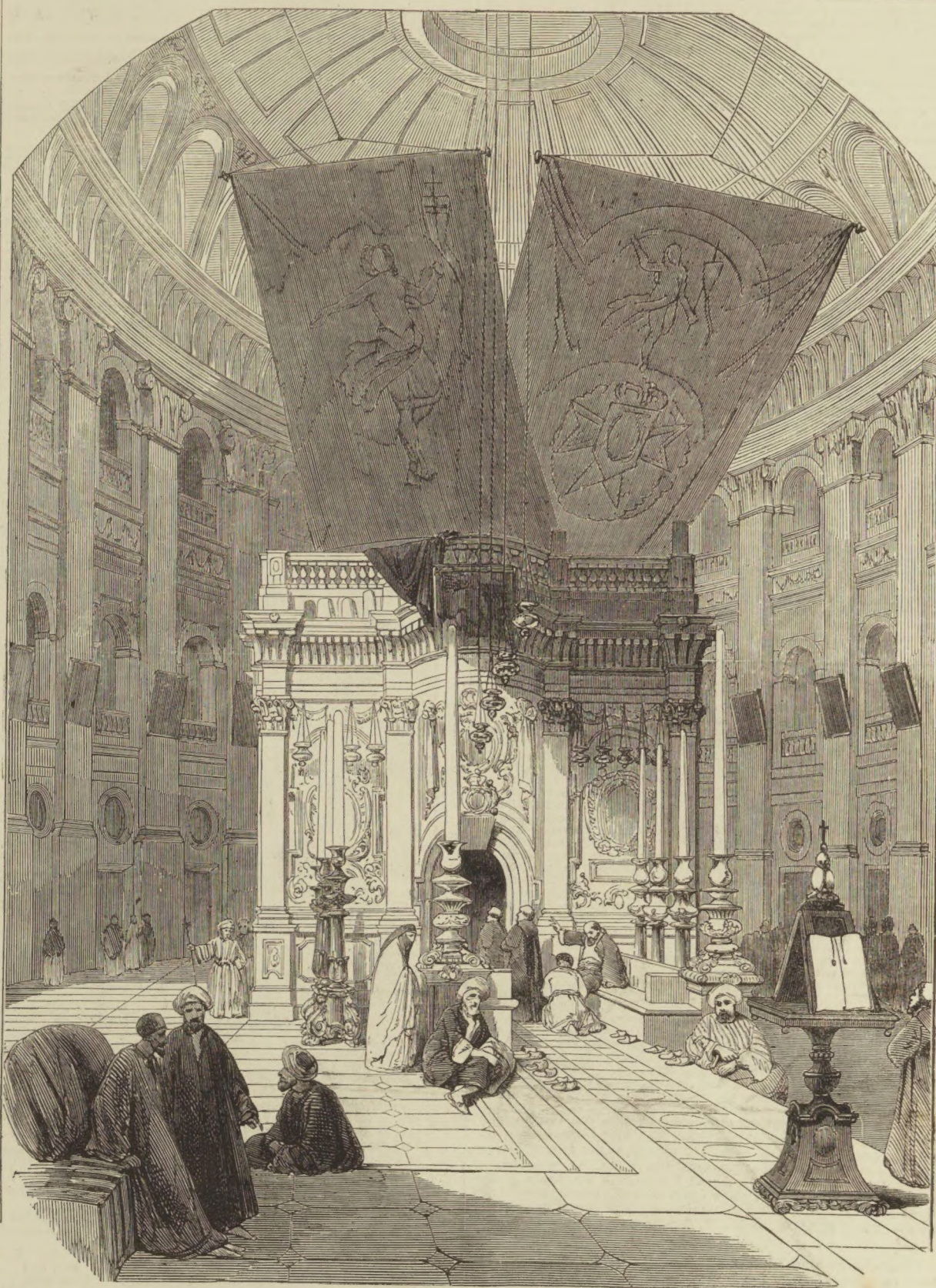
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.

THE dissensions of the Greek and Latin Churches in Jerusalem have for many years been a scandal to the Christian religion, and a perpetual stumbling block to Jews and Mahometans. These disputes are carried to Constantinople and submitted to the decision of the Ottoman Porte, to be ruled, not according to the principles of justice and equity, but as bribery, or private influence, or political interests may chance to prevail. Since the great fire in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, in 1807, the Latins—as the Roman Catholics are called in the Holy City—have been rather oppressed. The Greeks, by means of their riches, were at once ready to rebuild and repair the sacred edifice; by doing which, they acquired a claim to the whole; not exclusively, indeed, but so far that they are considered as the keepers. Thus, the guardianship of the Holy Sepulchre, which belonged to the Latins, was transferred to the Greeks, who, besides, likewise possess the largest Church, the Altar of the Crucifixion at Golgotha, and several subordinate places. The Greeks and Latins both enjoy the countenance of powerful European Monarchs, whence they derive an importance at Constantinople which, independently of this, they would not possess. Last autumn, the French Ambassador at Constantinople, the Marquis de Lavalette, used all the arts and intrigues of diplomacy to obtain a firman from the Sultan in favour of the Latins. His efforts were crowned with success; but the triumph of the Latins has caused such vindictive resentment among the professors of the Greek Church, in various countries, who look up to the Emperor of Russia for protection, that Prince Menschikoff has been despatched from St. Petersburg with the most peremptory instructions to procure a revocation of the exclusive privileges conceded to the Latins. The Greek Church forms the most numerous and powerful body of Christians in Jerusalem: out of a Christian population of 6500, no less than 5000 are of the Greek faith. The number of worshippers of this church is also swelled by the 3000 or 4000 Russian pilgrims who annually visit the Holy City; many of whom are charged with valuable presents from the Czar, consisting of silver lamps, candles, and rich brocade for the decoration of the altars. The average population of Jerusalem is between 15,000 and 20,000. The Roman Catholics are said not to exceed 900 in number. There are also a few hundred Armenians, Copts, and Syrians. The Armenians make up by their wealth what they lack in political influence, and have thus been able to sway the decisions of the Porte. The Syrians and Copts have been too poor and insignificant to contend with all these powerful rivals; but, being in communion with the Armenians, they are for the most part identified with their interests, and enjoy their protection, in return for which they are expected to submit to such spoliation as their protectors think right to inflict.

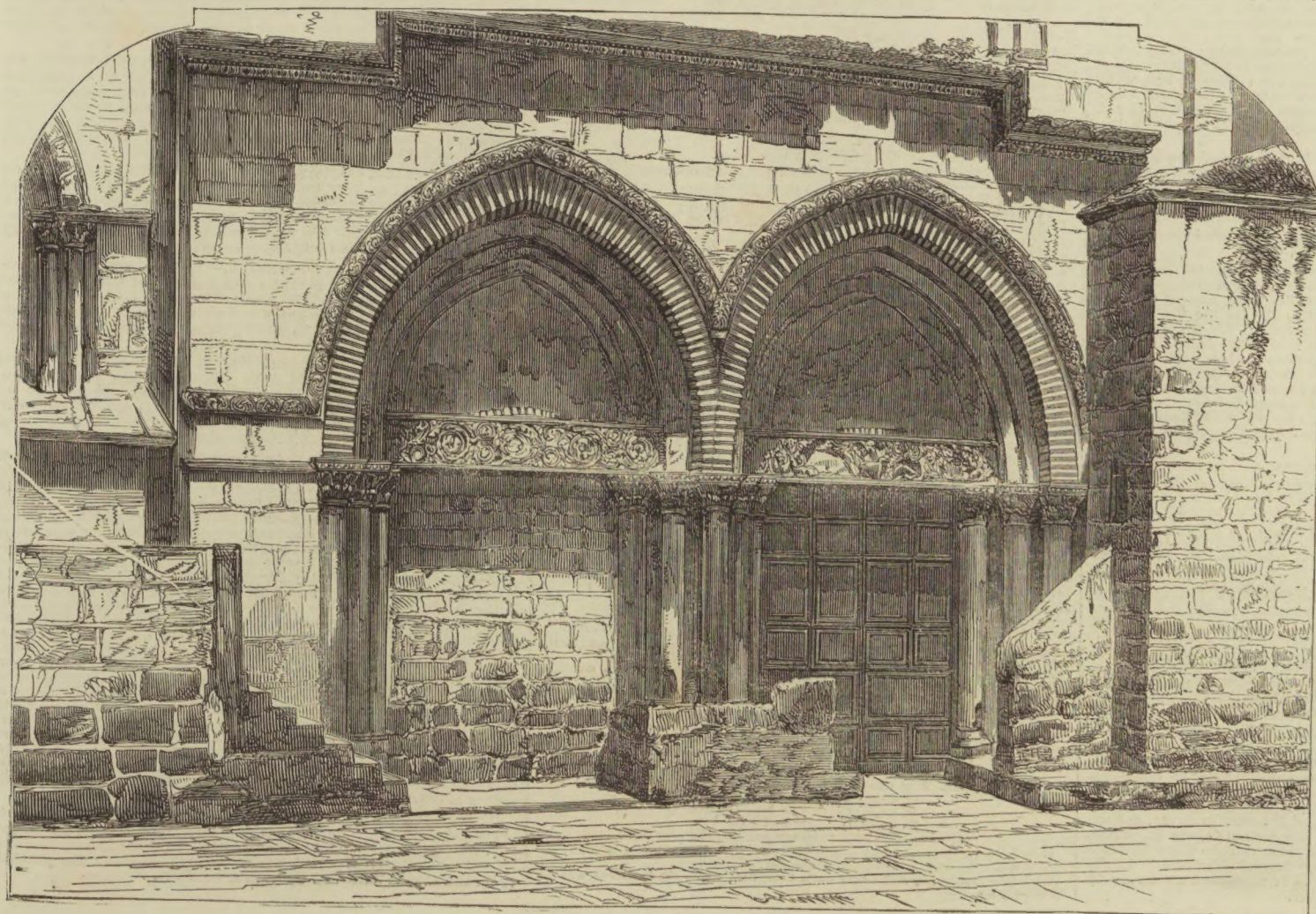
There is no single building within the walls of Jerusalem which excites a more intense interest in the mind of the Christian traveller than the church of the Holy Sepulchre, built by the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine. It covers the supposed spot of our Saviour's interment. It is situated at the north-west corner of the city, and has gathered around it most of the convents, and the principal portion of the Christian residences. The exterior of the edifice is that of the middle ages, and is of rather an uncertain character of architecture. The façade of the church, which is richly adorned, but half decayed, presents a singular contrast of beauty and meanness, capitals and friezes of elaborate workmanship being surmounted by a bare wall with broken windows. The appearance of the church is confined, being shut in by the adjoining buildings which belong to the Greek monastery, situated on the opposite side of the way. The prevalent style of architecture in Jerusalem is the dome, which could not be combined with the tower; and as the domes are not to be seen when standing in front of the façade, the edifice has scarcely the appearance of a church.

The interior of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre is a world of churches, chapels, and altars. Here are all creeds and sects of the Christian religion, except those that emanated from the Reformation. The large central dome of the church is about 70 feet in diameter, and of nearly the same height. Around the open space under the dome are small chapels for the Syrians, Copts, Maronites, and other sects of Christians, who have not, like the Roman Catholics, Greeks, and Armenians, large chapels in the body of the church. The Greek church is splendidly and richly ornamented, is kept up in a magnificent style, and is unquestionably the most imposing. The church of the Roman Catholics is confined, mean, and dark; the Latins being not only destitute of the great riches of the Greek and Armenian churches, but being in fact very poor. The chapel of the Syrian sect of the Jacobites is close to that of the Latins. A very wretched chapel belonging to the poor Copts stands in the rotunda at the back of the wall of the most holy place, and consists of a small wooden box, not much larger than a confessional.

Directly under the dome, in the centre of the area, is a small oblong building, within which is the Holy Sepulchre. The visitor mounts a few low steps to the marble platform before the entrance, and enters a small dimly-lighted room, which serves as an ante-chapel to the Sepulchre itself. A few steps further, and passing through a low narrow portal, the worshipper is alone in the inner sanctuary, the holiest of holy places, where thousands and tens of thousands kneel, weep, and prostrate themselves in the full faith that this is the very site of their Master's burial-place. The spot which is shown as that of the holy resting-place, is a sort of sarcophagus



SHRINE OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE, AT JERUSALEM.—FROM "VIEWS IN PALESTINE, EGYPT, ETC.," BY DAVID ROBERTS, R.A.



LOWER ARCADE OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.—FROM "PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE MONUMENTS OF EGYPT, NUBIA, AND SYRIA."

of white marble, six feet one inch long, which occupies about one-half of the chamber. The sarcophagus surrounds and conceals from the eye everything in relation to the tomb, and is about two feet above the level of the floor. The sepulchre retains nothing of its primitive material, except the oblong stone on which the body was laid, and even the upper surface of this is covered with white marble; it looks like an altar, and, indeed, serves as such when mass is celebrated here. Forty-three lamps, of gold and silver, ever burning, light this solemn spot, which is probably the only one upon earth that no one ever trod without seriousness and deep reflection, and where tears have flowed and prayers have been offered such as no other spot ever heard or witnessed. The air is kept redolent with perfumes night and day.

Chateaubriand, in an eloquent passage, has painted the church of the Holy Sepulchre:—

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, composed of several churches, erected upon an unequal surface, illumined by a multitude of lamps, is singularly mysterious; a sombre light pervades it, favourable to piety and profound devotion. Christian priests, of various sects, inhabit different parts of the edifice. From the arches above, where they nestle like pigeons, from the chapels below, and subterranean vaults, their songs are heard at all hours both of the day and night. The organ of the Latin monks, the cymbals of the Abyssinian priest, the voice of the Greek caloyer, the plaintive accents of the Coptic friar, alternately, or all at once, assail your ear; you know not whence these concerts proceed; you inhale the perfume of incense, without perceiving the hand that burns it; you merely perceive the pontiff, who is going to celebrate the most awful of mysteries on the very spot where they were accomplished, pass quickly by, glide behind the columns, and vanish in the gloom of the temple.

Travellers all unite in reprobating

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Only fifteen public Acts of Parliament have been passed in the present session, which assembled in November; and after a short sitting adjourned to the beginning of last month.

A working man at Brentwood, named Hall, has received two letters from Australia, containing £500, a present from his two sons, who were transported some years ago. They report themselves to be worth nearly £1000.

A tornado recently visited Clarksville, Tennessee (U.S.), levelling dwellings, stables, barns, and trees to the ground; but, as far as heard from, no lives were lost. The track of the storm was half a mile wide.

Lord Willoughby de Broke has offered to hunt the North Warwickshire boundary next season, providing the noblemen and gentlemen following the hunt will contribute £1000 per annum.

By accounts received from Sydney, a number of Frenchmen had returned from the gold diggings, and had demanded from the French Consul to be sent home.

By *Chambers' Journal* we learn, that, in forty cities and towns in Scotland, every 149 of the population support a dram-shop, while it requires 981 to keep a baker, 1067 to support a butcher, and 2281 to sustain a bookseller.

It is understood that the object of Sir George Russell Clerk's mission to the Cape is the settlement of boundaries, and particularly the boundary of the Orange River Sovereignty.

The deal wharf at Cronstadt had been destroyed by fire on the 22nd ult., involving a sacrifice of half a million of silver rubles. The proprietor is insured.

The emigration movement has given a fresh impetus to the Irish shipping trade; and there is an increased demand for tonnage in Dublin, Belfast, and other ports.

A Spanish hen, belonging to Mr. Knight, of Whitstable, laid, a few days ago, an egg of the following extraordinary size and weight:—Round the oval, 7½ in.; round the girth, 6½ in.; weight, 4 oz.

An American paper states that the following bill has been introduced into the Indiana Legislature:—"By Mr. McDonald, bill to compel old bachelors of 50 years of age to marry, or pay fifty dollars a year into the county treasury, to go to the benefit of the first lady who shall marry after the 1st of January. The provisions of the bill apply to widowers of one year's standing."

At the assizes at Bedford, the other day, a woman, having a baby in her arms, was arraigned for stealing a piece of muslin. When the article was produced, it was a small white rag, apparently a strip of a white frock! The jury acquitted the prisoner.

According to a Parliamentary paper, in the last four years, 27,613 immigrants and liberated Africans have been introduced into the West Indies; and 46,759 to the Mauritius.

Two new materials for textile manufactures have been sent to Manchester from Western Africa. Both were sent as specimens of cotton; but one is a new kind of silk, the other of wool.

The health of M. de Lamartine, far from improving, is now in a state which causes the utmost affliction to his friends. The physicians give no hopes of his recovery.

Government have begun to cure their own meat for the use of the navy. Thirty bullocks per week are slaughtered at the Clarence Victualling-yard at Gosport, and salted down. The new Arctic expedition has been supplied with this beef.

The East Essex Militia is to be converted into a rifle corps; and the East Suffolk into an Artillery Corps.

The amount of the new copper coinage is to be five hundred tons.

Jung Bahadoor, well known to our readers as the great Nepaulese Ambassador to England, is now a refugee in British territories.

The Copenhagen-house Tavern, for many centuries a popular London resort, has been disposed of, with the race-ground attached, to the Corporation of London, for the new cattle-market.

On the 4th of March there were at St. Petersburg 201 cholera patients under treatment. During the day 32 new cases appeared, there being also 10 cures and 19 deaths.

Edinburgh is projecting a Great Industrial Exhibition, to be held in that city next year.

A farmer has died at Cambridge from a very trivial cause: he accidentally cut his cheek with the lash of a whip; but the slight wound produced a fatal lock-jaw.

Sugar of a very fine quality is being manufactured in the Sandwich Islands.

The Eglinton Canal, between the Bay of Galway and Lough Corrib, has been opened for traffic free of any expense to carriers.

Advices from the north of Europe state that the weather had been very severe for the advanced period of the season, and that the opening of the Baltic shipping season will, no doubt, be delayed for some weeks.

A tradesman at Luton, Bedfordshire, has the following curious notice stuck up in his window:—*Good Ladies*, 1s.; *lasting ditto*, 1s. 6d. per pair.

The Council of Education meet at the Privy Council Office this day (Saturday), at half-past twelve o'clock.

Mrs. Hitzfeld, the American lady who was apprehended at Heidelberg, as an agent of the revolutionary propaganda, has been sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment in the prison of Molsbach.

On Easter Monday, the British Museum was visited by 26,537 persons; being an increase of 7000 upon that of last year. Notwithstanding the great influx of visitors, the greatest order and regularity were observed.

Persons are at Winchester Cathedral taking casts, for the New Crystal Palace, of an ancient font, the tomb of William of Wykeham, an altar screen, and the carving of a choir-stall.

The electors of Dumfriesshire who supported Lord Drumlanrig at the last election have defrayed the whole expenses of the contest, and handed over the surplus, amounting to £20 6s. 6d., to the Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary.

Mr. John H. Howe, J.P., Killyleagh, Down, died on Wednesday week of glanders, communicated to him whilst examining a horse which laboured under that disease.

The Chinese do everything differently from other people. We have a "jack" for pulling the boot from the foot; the "Flower Land" people, on the contrary, have an instrument for pulling the man from the boot.

The Bishop of Melbourne has applied for a loan of £5000 or £6000, to import into his diocese a number of iron churches, to be set up at the diggings and elsewhere.

Last week, Mr. Scott, of Stockton, shot a large sea-bird on the Tees, and upon opening it found a portion of a gold ear-ring in its gizzard—probably torn from the ear of some drowned woman.

A vessel built of zinc, the first of the kind, has been launched at Nantes.

The Emperor of Austria has granted the Golden Medal for literary and artistic merits to M. Leon Levi, for his work on the Commercial Law of the World.

On Wednesday night the Lady Mayoress gave a very elegant entertainment to about 350 guests in the Egyptian-hall. The dancing and festivities were kept up till a late hour. The band of the Fusilier Guards were in attendance.

The English Government has transmitted a fine Dollond telescope to Captain David, of the *Louis Napoleon*, for saving four sailors of the *Lady of the West*, whom he picked up at sea, and brought in safety to Brest.

On Sunday night, the 20th ult., a fire broke out in the deal yards at Cronstadt, and about 5000 standard hundred of deals and a great quantity of lathwood were destroyed. The loss is estimated at between £85,000 and £95,000.

During the past week, the coal-miners of the Glasgow district, numbering about 2000 men, have been on the strike; and the employers acceded to their request, and pay an advance, amounting from 6d. to 8d. per day.

Felix Farley's Bristol Journal, after existing for upwards of a century, made its last appearance as a newspaper on Saturday. The copyright has been purchased by the proprietor of the *Bristol Times*, with which it will henceforth be associated.

By a recent act of Parliament (16th Victoria, c. 15), after the 1st of October next, polls at county elections are only to continue one day, instead of two, and the hours from eight to five o'clock.

A modern miracle has taken place at Florence. Some thieves had robbed a chapel in the cathedral of that place, and two days afterwards, conscience-struck—replaced the property in the confessional.

The owners of the American steamer *Humboldt* contemplate selling her, on account of her draught of water being unsuitable to the port of Havre. She is a remarkably fine steamer, and last week made the passage from New York to Cowes in eleven days five hours.

The traffic on the North-Western Railway has so greatly increased, that the directors are about to double the lines from Euston-square to Primrose-hill, and if that prove inefficient, to double then on to Willesden.

A fellow named Joseph Wardle, has been committed to Gloucester jail for bigamy, he having married no less than six wives.

THE THEATRES.

THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The Royal Italian Opera was to have opened on Tuesday, but the announcement was postponed till Thursday, and the campaign will be commenced to-night (Saturday)—that is, if Ronconi, Tamberlik, Tagliafico, and Polonini, have made their way through the Russian snow. Mario, who started a few days before his comrades, is here, after most severe weather on his journey from St. Petersburg. Madame Bosio, Madame Castellan, Madame Jullienne, Lucchesi (the new tenor), Formis, and Zeiger, are in town; but the opera must have Mario or Tamberlik to begin with. At the time we write it is uncertain whether "Il Barbiere" (with a new ballet divertissement, "La Fille Mal Gardée"), or "Masaniello," will inaugurate the season.

EASTER PIECES.

DRURY-LANE.—The management has contented itself, by way of Easter-piece, with a burlesque of Sir Walter Scott's romance of "The Talisman." The subject admits of abundant spectacle and scenery. The ample resources of this theatre have furnished the requisite material for display in costume and pageantry. The decorations of the piece, however, far surpass its literary merit. With much wit, and many puns, the dialogue was occasionally brilliant, but compression would have been wise, as the length of some of the passages—"leading to nothing," as such generally do—provoked unmistakable symptoms of weariness. The mounting of the drama, however, is decidedly creditable.

HAYMARKET.—On Monday was inaugurated the new management, with great spirit. Mr. Albert Smith's "Ascent of Mont Blanc" seems to have suggested to Mr. Planché's parodical imagination "Mr. Buckstone's Ascent of Mount Parnassus"; and, accordingly, after the comedy of "The Rivals," Mr. Buckstone appeared in his character of Manager, anxiously inquiring of *Fashion* and *Fortune* (Mr. W. Farren and Mrs. Fitzwilliam) the way to success. Creditably for both, they recommend honest endeavour; and Mr. Buckstone himself confesses to certain poetic aspirations which Mr. C. Marshall has pictorially indulged. The panorama of "the ascent," including a general prospect of Parnassus, and views of the Village of Krissa, the Schiste and the Sacred Way, Ruins of the City of Delphi, the Castalian Fountain, the Corycian Cave, and the Snowy Peak of Liakura, are all admirably and beautifully painted. Of the general hits at things as they are—especially "things theatrical"—we may distinguish the scenes from the "Corsican Brothers," and the "Gold-diggers." These were finely painted and humorously accompanied. The dialogue abounds in witty allusions, and of itself is an earnest of the promises held out by Mr. Buckstone as to his future management. His predilections in favour of the poetic drama are highly honourable to him, and will, we hope, prove successful. The performance of Sheridan's lively comedy introduced two new candidates for metropolitan favour—Mr. Clippendale and Mrs. Paynter; the former as *Sir Anthony Absolute*, the latter as *Mrs. Malaprop*. Both have merit; the first in particular has an original vein of humour and style of acting, which, when more developed, will establish a reputation; and the latter will prove an acquisition in parts better suited to her powers and appearance. Miss Reynolds, too, was welcomed back, as *Lidia Languish*; and Mr. Compton, in *Bob Acres*, was exceedingly rich.

ADELPHI.—By way of signalling his exclusive management of this theatre, Mr. Webster opened the season with a slight occasional piece, entitled "Webster at Home, an Adelphi fare of Three Courses and a Dessert," introducing the performers who have migrated with him from the Haymarket—Mr. Leigh Murray, Mr. H. Bedford, Mr. Keeley, Mr. Parselle, Miss F. Maskell, and others, and who will much strengthen the company at this establishment. The piece is replete with green-room allusions; and was followed by four other pieces: "A Novel Expedient," "To Parents and Guardians," "The Pretty Girls of Stillberg," and "Pepino, the Dumb Boy." Such performances somewhat vary the usual run of entertainments at this theatre, and would seem to indicate some intended alteration in the character of the pieces henceforth to be produced. The house was crowded.

PRINCESS.—M. Scribe's libretto of "Marco Spada," as modified to English taste by Mr. Palgrave Simpson, was produced on Monday. The scene is laid in 1725, and the hero is acted by Mr. Ryder. Inspired with vengeance against the Roman Government, *Marco Spada*, as a brigand leader, has filled the country with terror; but remains undetected, while living in magnificent style in a forest château, with his supposed daughter *Andrea* (Miss Heath), who has no suspicion of his being a bandit, under the assumed name of the *Baron di Torrida*. This young lady has a lover, *Prince Frederico*, nephew of the Governor of Rome, who, with his niece, the *Marchesa San Pietro* (Miss Leclerc), are, by accident, forced to seek refuge in the secluded château. *Marco Spada*, though he has thus his enemies in his power, declines to take advantage of the circumstance; and, accepts, at *Andrea's* desire, an invitation to a fête at the Governor's palazzo. The second act is rich in all the stage accessories that represent a courtly ball, and is one of the most brilliant scenes we have ever witnessed. Here *Francisco* is recognised as the governor's nephew, and found to be affianced to the *Marchesa*. *Marco* is also recognised by a priest, who, however, is immediately spirited away by some of his troops disguised as servants. In the third act the scene presents the secret retreat of the brigands. Here the *Marchesa* and *Count Pepinelli*, a captain of dragoons (Mr. W. Lacy), are brought in as prisoners, and forced to well, so that *Francisco* may be free to fulfil his pledge to *Andrea*. The bandits are discovered, and attacked by soldiers. In the conflict *Marco Spada* receives his mortal wound, and then confesses that *Andrea* is the child of a nobleman who, with his attendants, had been formerly slain by his band. The *mise en scène* of this drama, and the whole of the arrangements are of the most costly kind. The acting throughout was careful and well studied. Mr. Lacy and Miss Leclerc were lively and comic in their different rôles. The dialogue, also, has been neatly rendered; and the whole forms a melodramatic spectacle of an extraordinary character. The house was well attended.

LYCEUM.—Having succeeded well in a seven-act play, the sharp-witted manager of this theatre, in partnership with the ever-ready Mr. Slingsby Laurence, has ventured on "a Dramatic Tale in Nine Chapters," for his present Easter piece. As on the former occasion, they have been assisted by the pencil of Mr. Beverley, whose scenes are worth all the money required for the performance. We have here his picturesque realisations of an Alpine Inn, a traveller's room in the same, a hut in the mountains, with an avalanche, a farm, grounds of a château, a ball-room, the château itself by moonlight, an elaborately-constructed and grandly-painted waterfall in a glen, and a rustic pavilion, which magically converts itself into a saloon of mirrors. These nine scenes constitute the nine chapters; the drama appended to them is the mere filling-up and justification of their presence. But it would be injustice to suspect that the outline has been carelessly or negligently occupied. *Au contraire*, the authors have worked together most diligently to present an elaborate, philosophical, and novel series of effects. If they have failed to amuse, it is not for want of the desire to please. In constructing this clever, but not altogether successful, piece of stage handiwork, the authors have sought adroitly to win upon the audience by at first presenting three brief and exceedingly simple chapters, and then adventuring others more complex in their arrangement and incidents. These latter were not so happy as the first. The simple pictures of the drum-head marriage of a Swiss Sergeant and a Vivandière—of the latter being wounded—of her recovery and delirium—and of her being arrested for a supposed theft, while in the act of rejoining her children: these were touching and effective, and promised a novel, or a drama, of some natural interest. All this changes, however, in the fourth part, for some heartless conventional scenes, in which, after a series of years, the poor Vivandière's children, patronised by a Countess, are brought into social relations of considerable difficulty. One of them, *Estelle*, is loved by the son of the Countess, who seeks to prevent the match, by disposing of her hand to a young farmer, *Jerome Leverd* (Mr. C. Mathews). Rude of speech and manner, *Jerome* is honest and kind; and, understanding the case, having made a fortune with the dowry received with her, resigns her, after a course of years, to her former lover. Meanwhile, the Sergeant, become a Colonel, seeks his long-lost wife and children, and arrives at the château just as *Estelle* has left it with *Leverd*, no one knows whither. *Christine*, too, at length, finds her husband, but disguises herself as a servant, in order not to interfere in the marriage of her son with the daughter of a mysterious Baron, who turns out to be *Jean Brigard* (Mr. Basil Baker) the thief for whom the Vivandière has suffered as a convict. At length the terrible crime is fixed on the real culprit, who dies thereupon of a broken heart. In conclusion, *Jerome* resigns *Estelle* to her proper lover; and having sacrificed his own prospects for the good of all parties, retires from the splendours he has created to his native farm. In the manipulation of this "Strange History" the authors have evidently been desirous of substituting the interest of a novel for that of the drama; and, apart from the *mise-en-scène* and machinery, have eschewed stage effects in the general action and dialogue. The tone, therefore, is throughout in a familiar strain, and the usual exponents of passion in poetical diction or histrionic gesticulation are skillfully avoided. The dramatists and actors have combined to present as close a copy of actual manners as they well could, and have done their best in order to realise a predetermined theory. It cannot be said that their success has been triumphant. The feelings of the audience have certainly not responded; and yet the appeal has been cleverly made. Another proof, this—though none was wanting—that true and effective art is not a copy, but an imitation. The shows of life, to please in play or poem, must be raised to some accordance with the desires of the mind. These literal renderings are no interpretations of nature.

OLYMPIC.—Mr. Morris Barnett has been engaged to place on this stage a version of "Marco Spada," which is here produced under the title of "Salvatori." The adapter has expanded the

original dialogue, and augmented the situations—giving to Mr. H. Marston, Miss Anderson, and Mr. Robson some capital opportunities for fine, pathetic, and comic acting. *Salvatori*, as interpreted by Mr. Marston, is a generous, jovial, and valorous man, overflowing with paternal tenderness for his supposed daughter; and these different phases were brought out with a decision and mastery of touch distinguishing not only a good, but a great actor. There can be no doubt but that this performer's engagement will raise him considerably in public estimation. Mr. Robson, too, is a comedian of intelligence, who makes his points with a natural and engaging facility. The time of the drama is thrown back to the age of Pope Innocent X.; the costume, accordingly, is remarkably picturesque, and the scenery is not only appropriate, but brilliant. The performance is likely to win on public favour, and merits encouragement. It is seldom that we have seen a piece so well acted.

ASTLEY'S.—This theatre has passed into the hands of Mr. Cooke. The new manager has surrounded himself with a most effective dramatic and equestrian troupe. The interior has been entirely re-decorated, and the ventilation properly attended to—a particular of great importance at this establishment. The drama produced on Monday was by Mr. Fitzball. It is entitled "Amakosa; or, Scenes of Kathi Warfare," and furnishes abundant opportunities for striking spectacle and equestrian feats of the most extraordinary kind. It was well acted throughout. The house was densely crowded.

SURREY.—The name of the spectacle here is "The Spirits of the Night." It is written by Mr. Markwell, who has rather too ambitiously entitled his production, which deals more with ordinary domestic interests than supernatural wonders. The plot turns upon family feuds, to the great discomfort of two *Homeo* and *Julet* kind of lovers—*Augustus Vernon* (Mr. J. Davis) and *Blanche Electingly* (Miss A. Clifton)—the gentleman being killed in the *melee* of discordant incidents. The piece was well received by a crowded audience.

HOLIDAY AMUSEMENTS.—The public have, during the week, had the usual opportunities of the season to disport themselves agreeably, and have succeeded in doing so, much to their satisfaction, at Cremorne, the Zoological Gardens, the Colosseum, the Polytechnic, and Madame Tussaud's. Neither have the Diorama been wanting in attractions; witness the Wellington, at the Gallery of Illustration; Prout's Panorama of Australia; and that of the Holy Land, at the Egyptian Hall. We are glad, also, to learn that Mr. Wyld's Great Globe has been well attended.

RISE AND PROGRESS OF ENGLISH POETRY.—On Monday evening, at the Whittington Club, Mr. T. Miller delivered the first of a series of six lectures developing the history of English poetry, from the earliest period to the commencement of the present century. The lecture of the evening comprised all that is known of our national poetry, from the times of the Ancient Britons to the period of the Norman Conquest. Mr. Miller rendered his lecture extremely attractive by illustrative extracts, selected with much taste and judgment, from various authors, and withdrew amidst much deserved applause; promising the audience that on the next occasion he would conduct them through the period between the Norman Conquest and the invention of printing. The lecture was well attended.

MUSIC.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Greenwich Fair and the burlesques and spectacles form the staple commodities of an Easter week. Music plays on such an occasion but a secondary part, the concert-givers biding their time.

Herr Jansa, the violinist, however, ventured on his third soirée, on Easter Monday, and was paid for his zeal by a good attendance at the New Beethoven-rooms. His sonata in D, Op. 66, executed by himself and Mr. Aguilar very cleverly, has ingenious forms, if not original ideas. Herr Hennen, Herr Goffrie, and Mr. W. F. Reed assisted Jansa in the quartets; and the German Musical Union sang glees harmoniously.

Last night the Sacred Harmonic Society repeated Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" and Mozart's "Requiem," under Costa's direction; with Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Williams, Mr. Loeckey, and Herr Formis. Referring to oratorios reminds us that Madame Fiorentini is again in the field, having at last conquered a most trying influenza which had affected her for the last three months. Such a voice as that of Madame Fiorentini cannot be spared at this moment.

At the Horns Tavern, Kennington, last Monday, an evening concert was given, at which Madame Doria, Miss K. Fitzwilliam, the Misses Dolby, Miss Messent, Miss C. Nott, Miss E. Day, Messrs. A. Pierre, Leiffer, Ciabatta, F. Bodda, Sainton, Piat, Botesini, Pilotti, Biletta, and F. Mori, were the principal vocalists and instrumentalists.

Dr. Bextfield has been delivering a series of lectures on music, at the London Institution; and Mr. Thorpe Reede has been lecturing at Crosby-hall on the National Music of England.

The first meeting of Mr. Ella's Musical Union will be on Tuesday; and the second Philharmonic Concert (Hanover-square-rooms), on Monday. Next Wednesday will be the anniversary festival of the Western Madrigal Society. The anniversary performance of the "Messiah," for the Royal Society of Musicians, will take place at Exeter-hall, under Costa's direction, on the 22nd inst. The Orchestral Union, under Mr. Mellon's direction, will give a series of four morning concerts this season.

Madame Viardot and Madame Clara Novello are both on their way to town for the concert season.

FATE OF A MATHEMATICIAN.—Robert Recorde, physician to Edward VI. and Queen Mary, was the first who wrote on arithmetic and geometry in English; the first who introduced algebra into England; the first who wrote on astronomy and the doctrine of the sphere in English; and, finally, the first Englishman (in all probability) who adopted the system of Copernicus. He died in 1553, in the King's Bench prison, where he was confined for debt!

EDUCATION IN ENGLAND AND WALES.—It is stated in the amended votes and proceedings of the House of Commons, printed since the adjournment, that on Monday next "Lord John Russell is to state the intentions of the Government with respect to education in England and Wales, and to move for leave to bring in a bill on the subject."

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

THE thirtieth Exhibition of the Society of British Artists, in Suffolk-street (which opened on Monday), displays considerable improvement over many previous ones, both in the character of the works presented and the artistic skill displayed in them. Though landscapes and *genre* subjects are, of course, the prevailing features, there are here and there efforts in the historic and poetic line which afford gratifying evidence that aspirations after the highest honours of art are not extinct amongst us.

Mr. Hurlestone, the President of the Society, has been as industrious as ever, producing no less than eleven pictures, most of them characteristic studies of Italian boys and shepherd boys, after the manner of Murillo (barring a little muddiness of brush here and there, which the latter had not, and which Mr. H., though he struggle against it, will probably never entirely get rid of); but in the midst of all these domestic subjects is one of a higher order, and in every respect entitled to take rank with the most capital performances of modern art. This picture (170) hangs on the south wall of the Great Room, and represents "the First Appearance of Columbus in Spain." The incident represented, though a trivial one, led to the most important results, and deserves to be commemorated as historical. After the duplicity of the Portuguese, by which his grand projects of Transatlantic discovery were for a time defeated, Columbus made his way to Spain, in search of more honourable co-operation in his gigantic views. Here, wending his patient way on foot, he stopped one day at the Franciscan Convent of La Rabida, to beg for some bread and water for his young son, who accompanied him. The boon was granted; and, whilst the humble refreshment was devoured by the younger wanderer, the Superior, Juan Perez Marchena, was so struck with the grandeur of the views which, even during this casual interview, were developed by the elder, that he detained him as his guest, and, when he departed, gave him a letter of introduction to the Confessor of Queen Isabella—an introduction which, eventually (in 1492), led to his expedition from Palos, with three vessels and 120 men. Mr. Hurlestone has wrought out this grand situation with the simplicity of treatment which so well becomes it. The moment seized is that when, at the gate of the Franciscan Convent, Columbus is receiving, at the hands of the Franciscan Superior, the bread and water he has begged for his son; and his dignity of bearing, and unmistakable superiority of aspect, are such as well account for the interest and respect already manifested towards him in the expression of the Superior. The attitudes of the three figures are unconstrained, yet full of life and purpose; and the colouring exhibits a vast improvement on too many of this artist's performances, being composed chiefly of genuine green, red, and brown, without any mixture of doubtful hues to spoil them. Perhaps, however, it might be suggested that the blue of the boy's dress is too pale and cold for the deeper tone prevailing over the

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

other parts of the picture. Amongst this artist's other works those which will attract more especial notice and admiration are (145) "Descendants of Marius and the Gracchi"—Italian beggar boys playing marbles, &c., in the streets of Rome; (220) a "Shepherd Boy in the South;" (298) an "Italian Shepherd Boy," carrying a sheep across his shoulders; and (445) "An Italian Girl putting on a Necklace." The rest are portraits, a class of work more interesting to the artist and the originals, than to the public.

Salter (who has been rather idle some years past), comes out with eleven pieces also, which, with the exception of four or five, are historical or poetic subjects. First in attractiveness is a picture of considerable dimensions in the Great Room (119), "Cupid's Amusement—Venus teaching her Son the use of the Bow." The idea is entirely fanciful; Venus is encouraging her chubby and mischievous son to play havoc with his little bow and arrow amongst several nymphs who happen to compose her court. One has already been mortally wounded, and is lying at the feet of her mistress; another still braves the little god's power, and is about to suffer for her temerity; the rest look on with a mixed feeling of curiosity and misgiving at the dangerous pastime. The subject and grouping are ingenious and well studied; but it is obvious that the artist has bestowed even still more attention upon the colouring, which is highly ambitious, and, we may add, is generally successful. Mr. Salter appears to have aimed, in this one work, at a complete illustration of the principles of colouring, and upon the relations of colours as displayed by the prism: a subject upon which much learned disquisition has been written, from the time of Newton down to our own day, but which practically was much better understood by the early painters, with Da Vinci and Titian in the van, and Murillo bringing up the rear, than it is likely to be for some time. Nevertheless, in the picture before us, a noteworthy attempt is made to carry into practice the rules of scientific theory; so as, by a proper disposition of colours, both as to relative position and quantity, the whole range of the colours of the rainbow and their combinations may be brought into harmonious association on the same canvass. The details of the process would be too technical for our present purpose; we will merely remark that the colouring of the principal group in the centre is made up of the three primitive colours—red, blue, and yellow—with a very small addition of green near the right; conducting the eye to the next principal group on that side, in which the secondary colours—green, orange, and purple—prevail, with a very small portion of red; whilst on the opposite side is a third group, also harmoniously connected with that in the centre, in which the tertiary colours—as olives, browns, and slates—are introduced; whilst various modified compounds are spread over the rest of the picture. As a whole, the effect is of extreme bright-



"RUSTICS."—PAINTED BY C. BAXTER.

ness, which may be improved by the subduing effects of age, or a little judicious glazing. Amongst this artist's other exhibits we remark, with approval (60), "A Bacchus and Ino;" (149) "The Nosegay," a female figure smelling flowers; (137) "A Bacchante;" and (297) "A Bacchanalian Dance;" the second of which is perhaps a little deficient in tone—the last very spirited. Two portraits of female children, (253) "with a Kitten" (query "Dog"); and (266) "Playing with Wild Flowers," are remarkable for their happy simplicity of treatment and naturalness of expression.

Woolmer displays his accustomed fertility of invention in the use he makes of his peculiar style of colouring—consisting chiefly of pale greens, yellows, and satin whites, with a dash here and there of vermillion; all very smooth and attractive, and upon the whole, truth to say, not inelegant. "The White Rose" (33) is a rather happy conceit; the said white rose resting tenderly on the amber-coloured drapery of the shoulder, where it forms a cold focus of light; appropriately enough in illustration of the lines:—

Beautiful maid, and snow-white flower,
Well are ye paired in your opening hour!"

The companion piece in the Great Room (87)—

Of pining care in rich brocade is dressed,
And diamonds glitter on an anxious breast—

represents a young lady preparing for bed, after her return from a masquerade (a *Juliet*, perhaps—certainly no masquerader of the modern school), and who has evidently left her heart behind her. "Titania Imprisoned," from the German, is in a superior vein; the grotto recess in which the figure reclines forming, as it were, the setting round a pearly gem. The drawing of the right side, however, is slightly "out."

West's Coast Scenes, whether in Norway or nearer home, are well appreciated, for their excellence of colour and naturalness of treatment. The one which we engrave (517) represents a bold sea-board, with a wrecked ship on shore. The scene is replete with nature, and the execution in every respect is satisfactory. In another picture by the same artist (244), "Recollections of the Devonshire Coast, near Lynmouth," we admire the bold reality of the presentation, and more particularly the accurate realisation of the stratified rocks with which on one side the view is bounded.

Baxter has several pleasing subjects of female beauty and freshness, treated, perhaps, a little tamely, but still with great delicacy of finish. From these we have selected for engraving (19), one entitled "Rustics," representing children returning from gleaming—a group very happily conceived and executed.

We shall return to this Exhibition next week; when we shall notice some admirable landscapes by Tennant and Boddington, and some clever productions by Pettit, G. Smith, Buckner, Hill, and many others.



"RECOLLECTIONS OF THE DEVONSHIRE COAST NEAR LYNMOUTH."—PAINTED BY W. WEST.



BURFORD'S NEW PANORAMA OF GRANADA.—VALLEY OF THE DARRO.

BRITISH MUSEUM.

The paucity of objects of mediæval art in the British Museum collections, invests any accession to the long-promised Gallery of Antiquities of the Middle Ages with considerable value. Accordingly, the item here engraved is of interest. This rare example was lately found in the river Tyne, and purchased a few days since by the trustees of the Museum. It is a brass vessel, about twelve inches high, in the form of a knight on horseback, in the war panoply of the early part of the thirteenth century. The surcoat is richly diapered, and the flat-topped helmet (the upper part of which served for the lid), and the hauberk, of



MEDIÆVAL BRASS VESSEL JUST ADDED TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

ringed or chain mail, afford excellent examples of the armour of the period.

MR. BURFORD'S PANORAMA OF GRANADA AND THE ALHAMBRA.

We now give, according to promise, an illustration of this grand Painting. The section we have selected represents a vale by the river Darro, under the summit of Silla del Moro, with the gay and the fair engaged in music and dancing, that harmonise with the beauty of the scene. This charming spot, entirely surrounded by mountains, is unequalled for its picturesque attractions. The Panorama presents not only the finest of plains, but the grandest of cities. It is taken from the Generalife, and embraces the Alhambra and the Vega, with the encircling mountains; including ravines, woods, fortress-battlements, towers, palaces of Arabian architecture, churches, and convents. "The cities, squares, principal streets, and public buildings," says the descriptive key, "may be as easily traced as on a map; the cathedral, the ancient convents and churches, and numerous miradors rising conspicuously above the vast masses of brown roofs, form striking features, and contrast pleasantly with the numberless little gardens and orangeries in the open courts below, and the flower-decked terraces on many of the roofs above. Towards the right is seen the Bass of the mills, and the valley of the Darro, through which the river so named winds its way, under embowered terraces, fruit groves, and flower-gardens—the favourite retreats of the Moors; in the small pavilions of which, then so numerous, they enjoyed at once seclusion, the finely-tempered breeze, and the flowers and fruit to which they were so partial." We quote the following animated picture of the Darro from Mr. Ford's "Hand-book of Spain:"—

The Darro rises from the hill of myrtles near Hucor, and approaches Granada under the Monte Sacro; so called from the finding certain sacred bones and relics, to which is attributed the sweetness and fertilizing quality of the stream. Thus, among the Pagans, the waters in which Juno bathed the morning after her marriage, retained their perfume.

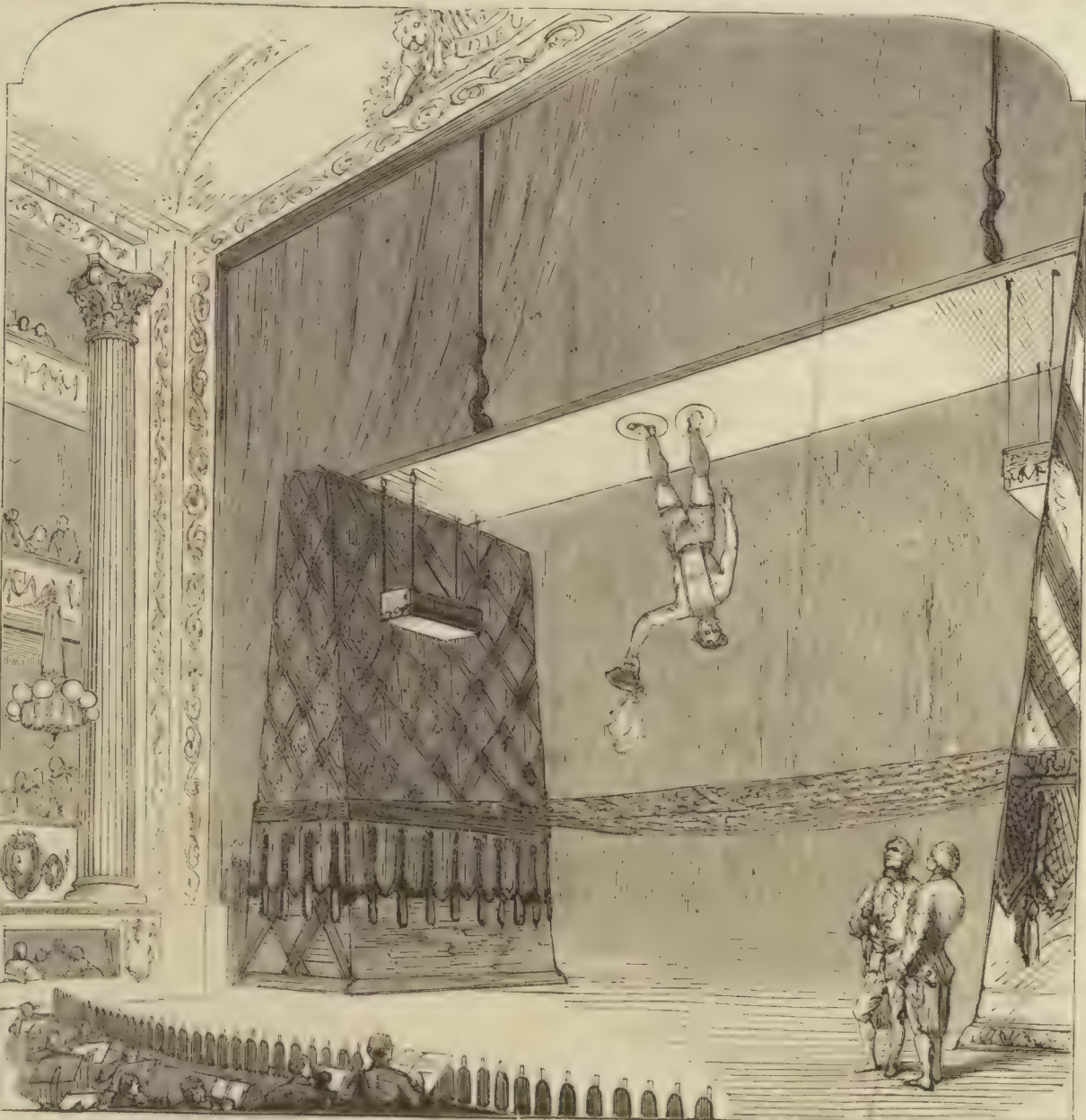
Mansit odor possis scire fuisse deam. The walks on both sides of the swift arrowy Darro up this hill are delicious: the stream gambols down the defile; hence its Arabic name *Hádaroh*, from *Hadar*, "rapidity in flowing." Gold is found in the bed; whence some, catching at the beloved sound, have derived the name Darro, "quasi *dat aurum*;" and, in 1526, a crown was given to Isabel, wife of Charles V., made from grains found in this Pactolus. Here amphibious gold-fishers still puddle in the eddies, earning a miserable livelihood in groping for the precious metal. The Romans called the river *Salon*; the gorge through which it flows, under the Generalife, was the *Hazariz*, or "Garden of Recreation," of the Moors, and was studded with villas. The Darro, after washing the base of the Alhambra, flows under the *Plaza nueva*, being arched over; and, when swelled by rains, there is always much risk of its blowing up this covering.

This exceedingly fine picture was painted by Mr. Burford himself, assisted by Mr. H. C. Selous, from drawings taken by J. Uwins, Esq., kindly assisted by Lady Louisa Tenison.

THE "AIR-WALKER" AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

MANY years since, we remember a certain *Sieur Sanches* accomplishing the feat of walking on the ceiling at the Surrey Theatre. *How* this was effected we are not prepared to say: it is stated to have been by the employment of hooks; be this as it may, the feat which has for some nights past been performed at Drury-lane Theatre, and which our Artist has illustrated, is asserted to be altogether of another class from the "Surrey" marvel.

The Drury-lane novelty is a Transatlantic contrivance. The performer is Mr. Sands, who has been an equestrian from his childhood; and is now proprietor of the Hippodrome at New York. He acknowledges to have received the secret from a scientific man, and first accomplished the feat at Auburn, on the 29th of May last. Whilst attempting it, at Penyann, in July last, Mr. Sands fell, and was much injured; he, however, completed his task, but was ill for some months after.



FEAT OF MR. SANDS, THE "AIR-WALKER," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

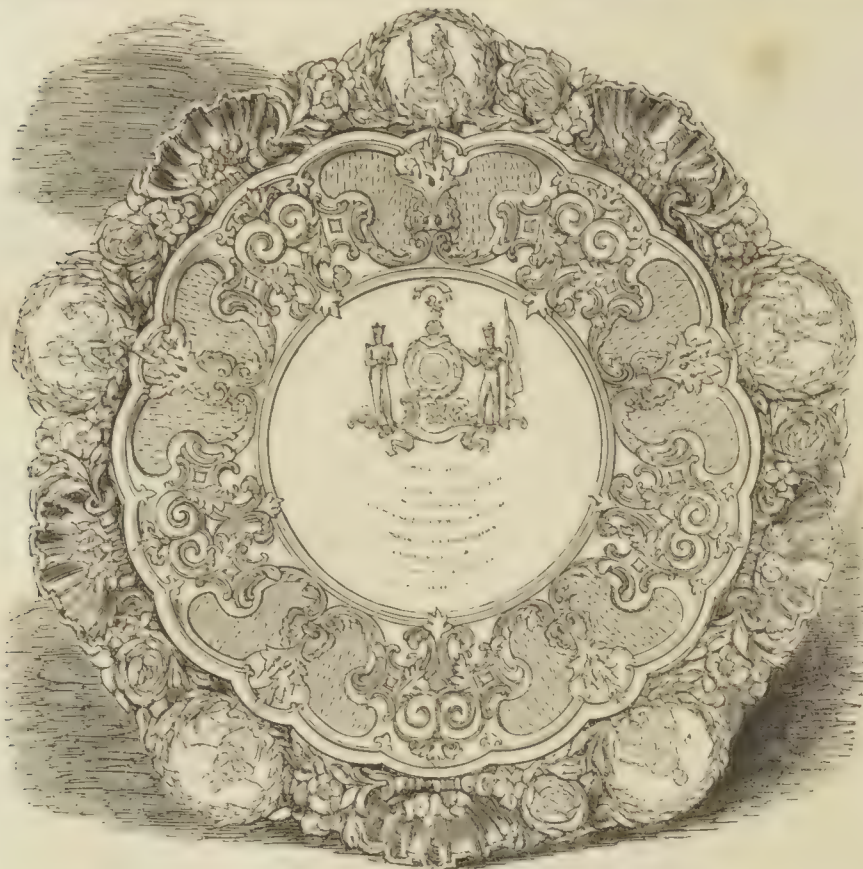
NEW MUSIC. &c.

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 ounce every where. Sold by his appointment by Savory, 220, Regent-
 Street; Messrs. 159, and Hannay, 63 Oxford-Street; Bulmer, 3, Cheap-
 side; Johnson, 63, Cornhill, and all respectable Medicine-vendors.

Norman period up to the fifteenth century. The Designs are Lithographed by Day and Son, Lithographers to her Majesty.

17 DONALDSONS—AGENTS SOUTHERLAND (410 M. C. Round), 16, Serres-place, Lincoln's-inn.—The VOLUMES of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS elegantly BOUND in embossed

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TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED TO SIR HARRY SMITH.

PLATE PRESENTED TO SIR HARRY SMITH.

In the same page wherein we record the termination of the Kafir War, it will not be inappropriate to illustrate a highly gratifying testimony of the colony to the popularity of its late governor Sir Harry Smith. The funds for this purpose were raised by subscription previous to Sir Harry Smith's return to England.

The testimonial is of the value of three hundred guineas, and consists of a set of side-board dishes, or salvers; the centre (which we have engraved) being thirty inches in diameter; and the two smaller, twenty inches diameter. The whole work, as will be seen by the illustration, is of the very richest design. The inscription is as follows:—

Presented to Major-General Sir H. G. W. SMITH, Bart., G.C.B., on his quitting the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, by a number of gentlemen of the colony, as a tribute of sincere respect and esteem, 18th April, 1852.

The testimonial has been designed and manufactured by Smith, Nicholson, and Co., Duke-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and is a beautiful specimen of design, and working in metal.

THE KAFFIR WAR.

By the Calcutta steamer, on Tuesday last, we have the welcome intelligence of the termination of hostilities at the Cape. The *Cape Town Mail* of Feb. 22, states: Since General Cathcart's return from the Basuto country, after the battle of Berea, no further hostilities have taken place. Head-quarters are again established at King William's Town, where the 43rd, 47th, and 74th regiments are stationed, the remainder of the forces being so disposed as to hold possession of various

points in the Amatolas, and keep that part of the country free from marauders.

To all appearance the Kafir War is at an end. All idea of fighting has evidently been abandoned by the hostile tribes, and the latest accounts from the frontier state that the chiefs Sandilli and Macomo have moved over the Kei, in compliance with the proclamation issued by his Excellency on his arrival, declaring that this was the only position in which he would ever treat with them. Attempts had been repeatedly made to open up a "talk" by messengers from these chiefs; but the General was inexorable in demanding removal as an indispensable preliminary to negotiation. This condition having now been ostensibly complied with, there seems a prospect that some kind of peace will shortly be agreed upon. Several of Sandilli's councillors are stated to have arrived at head-quarters with the chief's "word," and been admitted to an audience; but the nature of the arrangements proposed on either side has not yet been made public.

Whatever these arrangements may be, it is now certain that General Cathcart intends to retain military possession of the Amatolas until her Majesty's pleasure be known on the subject. In a Government notice, he announces his intention to establish townships and villages, in the neighbourhood of sufficient military forts and garrisons, in that portion of the lands formerly occupied by the Gaikas, named the Keiskama Hoek; and invites applications for land from the "deserving persons who have fought nobly in the ranks of colonial levies and other corps, during the rebellion now happily suppressed." The first settlers are

to be rationed for six months, and provided with implements, seeds, &c.; and, in the event of the home Government abandoning the project, compensation is to be given them, either in money or land elsewhere.

Notwithstanding this apparently promising condition of affairs over the border, the frontier districts have not been wholly free from depredation. Several serious losses of cattle and horses have taken place, and Kafir scouts and small parties of rebel Hottentots are continually met with, far within the more settled parts of the colony.

Up to the arrival of the last post the state of affairs in Krel's country, the scene of General Cathcart's first "foray," was looked upon as very unsatisfactory. All accounts concurred in representing the Amagaleki territory as in a state of dangerous confusion.

Krel, feeling, doubtless, that this was a condition of things which might lead to a second visit from General Cathcart, sent in messengers, professing great contrition and suing for peace. A proclamation issued by the Governor on the 14th instant, at King William's Town, announces that peace and amity have been restored between her Majesty and her faithful friend Krel; who, on his part, promises to be true and faithful to all his engagements, and to regard the rivers Indwe and Kei as the boundary between her Majesty's territories and his own (thus, by the way, sponging Kaffirland from the map). He engages to keep his people from disturbing the Tambookies, and to be responsible for the lives and property of British subjects within his territory; they, however, making their own agreements with him as to the terms on which they shall be permitted to reside there.

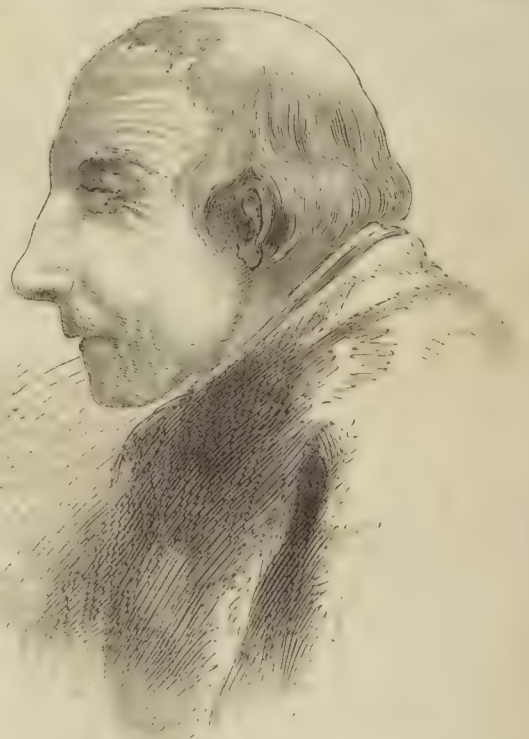
King William's Town, the scene of these negotiations, is the capital of British Kaffraria. Here was held the great meeting of the chiefs assembled by Sir Harry Smith, on the 7th of January, 1848, when the first English Bishop appeared in Kaffraria.

The accompanying View is from a clever Sketch, in oil, by a Correspondent.

DEATH OF A CANADIAN INDIAN, AGED 115.

This fine old Indian, called "Abraham Miller" by the Whites, though his Indian name was "Pishikee-Ooshkeeshik," i. e., ox-eyed, died on the 20th of February, and, according to the last census, was 115 years old! Pishikee and two other Indians, who always looked up to him as their senior, had long been known as having been engaged at the taking of Quebec, in 1759; and one of them, it is believed, still survives. The *Montreal Herald*, remarking on the census returns, and referring to Abraham Miller, says, "Ninety-three years ago he scaled the cliffs of Quebec with General Wolfe, so that his residence in Canada is coincident with British rule in the province."

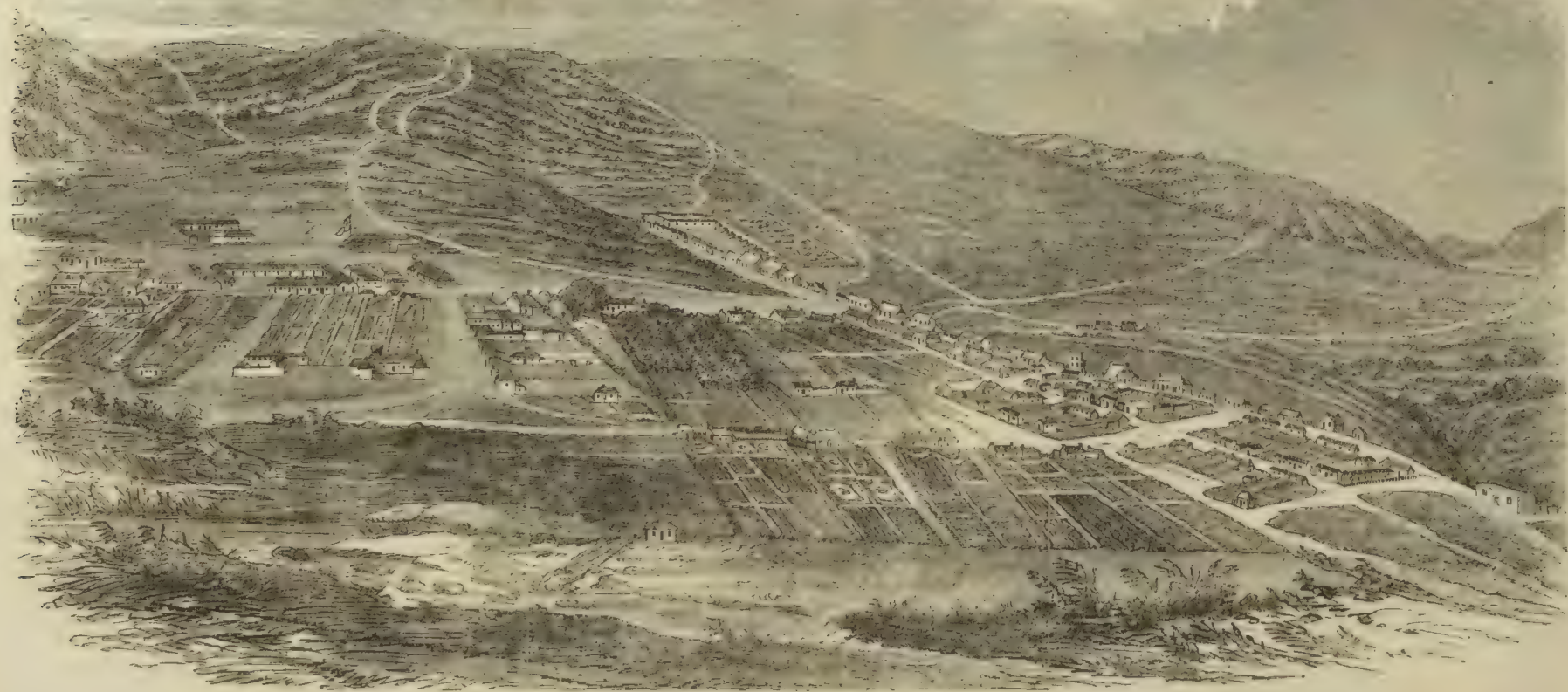
Our Correspondent (who writes from Astley, Canada West), states that "Abraham Miller and his two daughters pitched their wigwam in the



ABRAHAM MILLER ("PISHIKEE-OOSHKEESHIK"—OX-EYED), AGED 115 YEARS.

woods, near my 'clearing,' in November last; and, as I was his nearest neighbour, I saw a good deal of him. As an instance of his strength and vigour, I may mention that, on the Thursday before he died, I saw him cutting down a good-sized maple-tree for firewood, and, as I had my axe with me, I assisted him in the task.

"The enclosed sketch was taken by my sister about a fortnight before he died, and is an excellent likeness. When we visited him for that purpose, we found him and his two daughters clothed in their comfortable blankets, the present of the English Government; and when I looked at their slight wigwam, the snow to the depth of nearly three feet around us, and remembered that the thermometer this winter had been as low as 12 deg. below zero, I thought it was a cruel economy to deprive the poor Indians of their greatest treasure—a warm blanket; but such I am sorry to say is the case, for no more will annually be distributed to them as heretofore; and in vain do the poor Indians show their beaded wampum belts given in years gone by as a pledge of future favours always to be continued. The Indians are a brave, loyal, and contented race: their numbers, indeed, are fast diminishing, and they are weak and feeble as a nation; but that is no reason why their former services should be forgotten, or the promises solemnly made to them should be broken. May we hope that some influential advocate will yet plead their cause in the British Parliament."



KING WILLIAM'S TOWN.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.



LITERATURE MUSIC FINE-ARTS DRAMA SCIENCE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

VOL. XXII.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1853.

[GRATIS.

Literature.

DISCOVERIES IN THE RUINS OF NINEVEH AND BABYLON, with Travels, &c.; being the Result of a Second Expedition, undertaken for the Trustees of the British Museum. By AUSTEN H. LAYARD, M.P., Author of "Nineveh and its Remains." John Murray.

"History repeats itself;" and we, even in this age, have doubtless above ground, powers and dominations, which, if the world lasts long enough, will be studied in their ruins three thousand years hence, by scientific and learned antiquaries, speaking tongues, now perhaps unformed, and belonging to communities now without a name. Of what use will our annals be to those remote masters of a future world? Shall we teach them anything, or shall we teach them much; out of our graves? Shall we merely furnish an interesting story? Shall we be the theme of memories, entertaining, indeed, but serving none of the practical ends—entering into none of the real business—adapting themselves to none of the serious labours which may be destined then to occupy the solicitude of men and nations? It would be a feeble and insufficient answer to this question to point to the records to which so many

recent augmentations have been made by a marvellous system of recovery, and which hold up to us in dim outline the shadow of Assyrian and Babylonish power—the shadow, scant indeed, of substances once so real and so huge. For the knowledge of our fate and character will go down to posterity incomparably more full, familiar, and distinct than any acquaintance which it is possible for us now to acquire of the great primeval empires under whose unsparing and heavy hand the richest and brightest portions of early Asia groaned.

Here, in truth, is an enormous distinction between the virtual relation which we bear to the past, and that which we are likely to bear to the future. Independently of the indisputable fact, that our moral and material civilisation is more worthy to be preserved in human remembrance than is the most perfect development ever attained by idolatrous Egypt, or by idolatrous Ashur, there is another fact equally certain—that our times *will* be thus preserved. The same phenomenon which characterises our age in the communications of country with country, characterises it in the communications of the dead with the living, and of the living with the unborn. The art of printing supplies to the human race an indestructible depository for its archives for evermore. It is impossible—and impossible physically, as well as morally—that, after

any lapse of ages—after a lapse of ages five times as numerous as those which separate the present era from the era of Ninus; the same shadows should envelop the memory of Victoria or of Napoleon III., or indeed of any historical character of the last four centuries, which shroud from our most eager inquiries the deeds, and the doom, and we had almost said the very name, of Ninus himself. And little as we may know of such a personage, that little bears still the further incertitude of date; we believe, perhaps, that such men bent the stiff necks of their enemies before they were, in fact, born; or that their chief exploits had effect when their remains were already mouldering in the barbaric pomp of an Eastern mausoleum.

There is a most impressive line, the exact words of which we cannot recall, in some old Latin poet, suggested or inspired by the sight of a strong castle going to ruin, on the banks of a river which still flowed equably beneath it, exactly as the same river had flowed ages before the foundation-stone of the decaying structure had been laid. The meaning is to this effect—"the motionless fall, while the mobile remain"—"*En immota ruunt, dum fluxa manent*"—a familiar fact, conveyed in a paradoxical and startling form of expression. The quotation may describe not inaptly the advantage which a printed re-



* * * * PAINTED BY JOHN ABSOLON.

THE very graceful and touching composition which we engrave, is one of the most attractive pieces in the "Winter Exhibition of Sketches and Drawings" (Pall-mall), for the current season. It illustrates the beautiful passage in one of Kirke White's poems:—

Mary, the moon is sleeping on thy grave,
And on the turf thy lover sad is kneeling.
The big tear in his eye.—Mary, awake!
From thy dark house arise, and bless his sight,
On the pale moonbeam gliding.

The artist represents the object of this passionate appeal, as rising in spirit from the grave, and looking down in pity upon the bereaved one whom she has left behind, and who, unconscious of her presence, waters the ground with unavailing tears.

cord with its multiply and ever reproducible copies, diffused in a thousand places, and consigned to the frailties of material substances, possesses over an inscription, however deeply graven, entrusted, once and for all, to brass or granite. The brass and the granite are, in themselves, less perishable than the parboiled and refined rag of linen called paper; and the deep cut of the chisel leaves an impress infinitely more permanent of its own nature than the delicate or fading stain of the ink with which that paper is traced. Yet what comparison is there between the durability of a monumental inscription, in which a great many persons take interest, and the durability of a book equally interesting? To destroy the book, so that no copy (perchance parent of millions of subsequent copies) shall remain, is simply an impossibility. Among the unknown thousands, or hundreds, who have bought the book, how make sure that you have discovered all? How be sure, after destroying many copies—say even the immense majority of the copies which saw the light—that one survives not somewhere? And one is as good as ten thousand for the final re-production, re-distribution, and immortality of the work. Indeed many works, now in the hands of readers in every civilised community, have been thus called, as it were, out of the grave, and only thus. It would be the privilege, not of a man, but of a disembodied spirit, to know the chattels that may be in the possession of every other man; and, therefore, the indestructibility of a book interesting to a great number of minds is evident and certain. But when a similar record is confided to the hardness of one marble monument, and when that is wantonly or accidentally defaced, where is the remedy? A thought is gone; a fact is lost; a memory has perished—and it has perished for ever. Thus it is that ink and paper are stronger than the monumental bronze, *cere peremunt*; thus it is that diffusion and the very uncertainty of place and deposit, in respect to multiplied copies of a work, form a far better guarantee of its vitality than could be got out of the promise of adamant.

At present, the efforts made to retrieve the vestiges of Assyrian history by means of certain mutilated characters left on Mesopotamian bricks, and left in cipher, and left in a cipher based upon languages almost lost, are really stupendous; stupendous in their noble audacity and unexpected success. But *le jeu vaut-il la chandelle*? Some may ask "What does it profit us to know all about a corpse for which there is no resurrection?" When Greece died in the body, she still lived in the minds of her lawgivers, conquerors, poets, historians, architects, sculptors, painters, orators, and sages; and *victa Græcia sacros domuit virores*. Never was there a vaunt more exalted, and certainly never was there one more true. Is the legacy which Assyria had to bequeath to the human race of a similar character? If we could recover all that she left, and interpret all that we recovered, should we be inclined to purchase this gain on condition of losing for ever only one of the nine books of Herodotus, who is himself but one out of the myriad of starlike and "spheroid" spirits that shine in a civilisation so much younger, yet so ancient? Let us see what it is that a nation may bequeath when it falls away into nothingness, and has done with its active destinies. By far the least valuable part of such legacies is the physical or material—such as the roads and aqueducts of the Romans, the pyramids of the Egyptians, bridges, statues, temples, and artificial structures in general. We say by far the least valuable for two strong and obvious reasons: first—every age, and almost every generation, have their own wants and interests; and those wants and interests are but insufficiently and clumsily supplied by the past; secondly, most works of the kind here mentioned are transitory at the longest, and perishable at the best. Let us then consider these things to be, as they are, the least precious portion of the bequest which a great people, whose active career is closed, can leave to posterity. What else, then, is there? All is comprised under two heads: first, that of moral examples; secondly, that of intellectual lessons. These are, in all cases, imperishable intrinsically; and, since the invention of printing, imperishable extrinsically also. For moral examples in private life, we need not go to Greece or Rome; but still less would we turn to Nineveh. For moral examples in public life, in all the virtues of civil and of military magnanimity, we may well seek, for we shall be sure to find them numerous and reiterated, in the two great classic polities which still "rule us from their urns," and have been the admiration of seventy generations. But, here, what of Assyria? If we could make with her as close an acquaintance, would the mental intimacy be equally or similarly rewarded? How prodigious is the contrast! All that is most exalted, and much of what is most degraded, in the public life of Pagan antiquity, are by this suggestive comparison or allusion brought into juxtaposition and proximity.

Let us turn to the last of the three divisions, which we made of an extinct empire's testamentary wealth—that of the intellectual lessons. These, in their turn, are all included in three sub-divisions: sciences, arts, literature. Such a classification, we admit, is, in a logical point of view, rather slovenly, since literature is itself an art; and all other arts, and the sciences themselves, find her their nursing mother. In the sciences—physical, moral, and metaphysical—can we learn anything from Assyria? In mechanics, in astronomy, and in physics in general, antiquity can now teach us but little; and teaches us, in fact, nothing. We are still more superior to the past in ethics, since we enjoy the light of Christianity; and if, in the grave and vain subtleties of metaphysics, we were to consult any of the mightier races of the elder world, it would again be that which regarded Athens as its intellectual metropolis, and certainly not the tributaries of the city of Bel and Dagon. In what, then, can "the remains" of Assyria render the world richer, or better, or wiser? Literature was the concluding particular to which our inquiry referred. Alas! here, the case is worst of all. Can Ashur speak still? Yes, like a particularly arid almanack, which may at least be safely regarded as the "oldest" of the old. The great King took the town of Samaria, and the tribute amounted to talents in gold and talents in silver, in number, as follows; captives, in number, as follows; slain, of the foe, in number, as follows.

Are, then, all these antiquarian labours—these labours so prolonged and so abstruse—so remarkable for the learning, the ingenuity, the patience, and the perseverance with which they have been prosecuted—are they all wasted? Was Assyria but a casual instrument for a day's work, and good for nothing beyond? Was it but a scourge to chastise the people whom Providence loved? We have no hesitation in replying that we deem the Oriental labours of Mr. Layard as useful as his spirit is candid and his learned enthusiasm exalted. First of all, there are minds among us who want confirmation, not "strong as Holy Writ," but stronger—confirmation, in fact, of Holy Writ itself. They may find it here. They may find here the unpremeditated and involuntary testimony of the "Scourges of God," to the "Oracles of God." The minutest and most incidental—the most collateral and fortuitous—details mentioned by the Prophets in Scripture, are here corroborated by the independent and unobtrusive testimony of those who believed not, and who perished for not believing; though they were chosen to accomplish, unwittingly, in their own way, many a mystery of vengeance or of covenant. The sacred histories are adventitiously elucidated by these investigations.

Again, those monstrous old monarchies, if they were important enough to occupy the prevision of the Seers of the Almighty, among his own chosen people, are surely no unworthy object of our retrospective contemplation. Great was their destiny in their day; and they went out among the nations, for the most part, with disasters in their hands, but sometimes with memorable dispensations of mercy ("And he stirred up the heart of his servant Cyrus to build a house in Jerusalem"). It is natural that we should be curious; and right that we should be interested. All stores are welcome which are contributed to the more solid learning of mankind. The immediate utility may not be apparent; the possible utility is obvious; the attraction and the spell of such revelations are irresistible, and probably not without a design nor without an object. We would not wish to be blind merely because we cannot specify the gain of seeing many things on which we gaze; nor will we reject information, curious and recondite in its character, and procured with immense and generous labour, merely because we cannot discern in what way that information may materially affect us in our modern social condition.

Frequently we are reduced to prize discoveries less in proportion to their abundance than, strange to say, in proportion to their scarcity. This almost always is the case when we feel that none of the information gained could have been reached without the most trying difficulties. Such is the character of Mr. Layard's contributions to our antiquarian literature. He gives a whole life, and we give him honour in return. All we hope is that he may not say (in a sense at once smaller and greater) with Septimius Severus—"Omnia fui, et nihil expedit."

Having put our readers, as we hope, upon their guard against estimating the value, and certainly against estimating the merit, of Mr. Layard's labours, by the positive amount of intelligence which he has added to our store of historical lore, we will now state, in brief and general terms, the result of his discoveries. If these were even more scanty, "exaggeratedly speaking," has he not—to put the matter on the very lowest ground—enriched our national Museum with new, curious, and venerable contributions?

First of all, then, we will say that, by the application, in its very

highest form, of the decipherer's art, where the ciphers were in strange and almost lost languages, and these not always employed, but replaced by demotics and hieroglyphics—through the application, we repeat, of the deciphering art to the imperfect and defaced inscriptions of the monuments which he had previously exhumed, he has succeeded in giving us a more complete view of that part of the giant statue which appeared to the King, and which Daniel explained—of that part of it, we say, which the Assyrian Empire itself represented. We have now an enlarged notion of the monarchical succession of that remote sway, with whose memorials we are so eager to decorate our national collection of antiquities.

Mr. Layard has succeeded in detecting the names of seven Kings, preceding him of whom he has supplied us with a detailed account. Nor does Mr. Layard imagine that even the earliest of those seven sceptred shadows was the founder of Nineveh; which, in his opinion, may have existed nearly two thousand years before the coming of our Redeemer. This would make Nineveh the earliest known very great city ever raised, and scarcely four centuries posterior in date to the universal deluge. This, however, though countenanced by certain Egyptian monuments, is but hypothesis at present. The first King whose name Mr. Layard records was Derceto, who flourished 1250 years before Christ. The succession proceeds thus:—Divanukha, or Divanurish, 1200 B.C.; Anakbar-beth-Illira, or Shimish-bal-Bithkira, 1130 B.C.; then two Kings whose names are unknown, or uncertain; then Adrammelech the First, 1000 B.C.; then Shimish Bar, 960 B.C.; then Sardanapalus the First, 930 B.C. Here the annals become clear and abundant; and the last-named King was the builder of the North-West Palace at Nimroud. After him come Divanubar; Shamas Adar; Adrammelech the Second; two Kings uncertified; Pul, or Tiglath Peleser; Sargon (ought not this to be Salmanasar?); Sennacherib, and the other Sardanapalus. Each of the two last has furnished a subject to Byron's muse. We must add, and it is a circumstance of the greatest interest and importance, that, among the proper names deciphered on the Nineveh monuments, not fewer than fifty-six occur also in Scripture.

If we add that Mr. Layard gives us the designations of twelve out of the thirteen principal gods or demons worshipped by the Assyrians, we shall have stated the main fruits of his laborious investigations. The names of these deities are—Ashur, Anu, San, Merodach, Yar, Bar, Nebo, Mylit or Gula, Dagon, Bel, Shamash, and Ishtar.

The present work contains sixteen maps or plates, and upwards of two hundred and thirty wood-cuts, all in one handsomely-printed and solidly-bound volume. Many modern particulars of travel and incident, and many statistics, geographical, agricultural, and moral, add to the varied and extensive usefulness of this truly valuable work. Mr. Layard's own adventures lighten the more severe and antiquarian tenor of the production, and make it by no means unattractive reading even for the idler.

The learned men to whom we are most indebted, along with Mr. Layard, for the results of Assyrian history, language, and manners thus elucidated, appear to be Colonel Rawlinson, Dr. Hincks, and M. Botta. Earl Granville has earned by his enlightened encouragement, the honour of the dedication. It is no ordinary work with which that accomplished nobleman's name is thus associated; nor can it be an ordinary mind which, in the heat and dust and turmoil of modern politics, having found the leisure, and having felt the inspiration to appreciate the solemn interest of studies so calm, so remote from all personal considerations, could sit down and meditate among monuments of a power which is no more, and vestiges of a fierce life which had run its mortal term five-and-twenty centuries ago.

We look on this body or skeleton which stands before us, exhumed by antiquarian erudition, less as an apparition evoked by sorcery than as a mummy discovered by ingenious and felicitous labour; nor can we forbear to quote, as an appropriate conclusion to our remarks, the whimsical but immortal verses of James Smith:—

I need not ask thee if that hand, when armed,
Has any Roman soldier mauled and knuckled;
For thou wert dead, and buried, and embalmed
Ere Romulus and Remus had been suckled.
Antiquity appears to have begun
Long after thy primeval race was run.

HARRY MUIR. By the author of "Margaret Maitland," "Merkland," "Adam Grange," &c. Three volumes. Hurst and Blackett.

We congratulate the fair author of that most pleasant book, "Mrs. Margaret Maitland of Sunny-side," on the novel which we have now to notice. It possesses the same simplicity of tone, the same quaint Scotticisms of expression, the same minute and graphic sketches of scenery, and the same forcible character-painting, which had previously won for her so great and so well-merited a reputation. Few things throughout the whole range of fiction have ever been better or more artistically contrasted than the Uncle Sandy and the Sister Martha of the present volumes; the single-hearted and benevolent old man, who renews his own youth in the happiness of the young, who lives among flowers and sunshine as in his peculiar element, and selects as his favourite music the voices of pure-hearted and innocent young girls, and as his best guardon the gratitude of their loving hearts, with the strong-willed, deep-thoughted, devoted woman, whose love for her weak and erring brother enforces upon her a patience and an endurance which renders her existence one long and hopeless martyrdom of self. Nor is the "little wife" less ably or less beautifully conceived. Not one character, in short, which figures in the work, but has its distinctive excellence, save, indeed, that one which gives its name to the book; and we except this one with the less reluctance, that Mrs. Oliphant can well afford to be told that there is a drawback to her otherwise charming tale. We, therefore, do not hesitate to declare that we protest against Harry Muir; and not only against Harry Muir personally, but also against his influence upon the affections of those around him. We do not require to be told of the weakness of human nature; neither are we (unfortunately) in a position to assert that such an individual never existed, contemptible as he is; but we do protest against the possibility of a dozen virtuous, self-denying, and estimable relatives sacrificing their own comfort and peace of mind, month after month, and year after year, to the selfish indulgence of a wretched prodigal; who, after having been unexpectedly rescued from poverty, and blest with comparative affluence, through the exertions of others, weakly and wilfully abandons his wife, his sisters, and his infant children, to plunge into dissipation with vulgar companions; varying his disreputable and useless career by maudlin fits of repentance and promises of amendment, which are only succeeded by renewed intemperance and disgrace. For a time, we were inclined to say, to expend our pity on him beyond a given point; after which the selfish prodigal, the degraded gentleman, the heartless husband and father, and the ungrateful brother, elicited in our minds nothing beyond contempt; and of this much we are certain, that the tale of "Harry Muir" never rose to such a pitch of interest as after Harry Muir was quietly laid in his grave. Old Dragon, with his harmless vanity, his wiser tales, and his far-off memories, is an admirable sketch, which we even prefer to Miss Jean, powerfully as the character is wrought; while the minor personages are, one and all, skilfully and vigorously flung upon the canvass. As a whole, therefore, there can be no doubt that the present fiction will sustain the reputation of its author; although we feel that the graceful mind and kindly nature of Mrs. Oliphant are more at home with the worthy and the good than with the despicable and the weak. Apart from the hero himself, we have seldom read a more pleasant fiction; but his appearance on the scene continually produced upon us the effect of nightmare, oppressing all our sensibilities and deadening our sympathies.

We shall look with anxiety for the next production of this lady's gifted pen.

WHITE, RED, BLACK. Sketches of Society in the United States during the Visit of their Guest. By FRANCIS and THERESA PULSKY. Three volumes. Tribner and Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Pulszky, exiled from their country for the cause of liberty, deserve much commendation for their devotion to literary pursuits, and making honourable exertions under great difficulties to preserve a high and independent station. To compose in a foreign language, however, judging by their example and the example of Kossuth, seems for the Hungarians an easier task than for most other people; and it may not be as great a merit in them to write a book describing the United States in our somewhat rugged language, as it would be in Italians, French, or Spaniards. They have succeeded well, and have given us three volumes of masculine writing, descriptive of society as it appeared to them in the United States, during their visit in Kossuth's company, to whom they are closely and intimately attached. Mrs. Pulszky kept a diary, and Mr. Pulszky seems to have gathered political and statistical information, and to have put down such observations as he thought worthy of public notice, and of these different materials the

book is composed. First, we have from Mr. Pulszky a description of the departure from England, and a dissertation on the discovery of America before Columbus; and then we have extracts from Mrs. Pulszky's diary, narrating, to lessen the weariness of a sea voyage, the events of Madame Kossuth's escape from Hungary; and so, all through the book, dissertations and descriptions by the gentlemen alternate with extracts from the lady's diary. The difference between the two is not so great as to make the transition harsh and repulsive. On the contrary, the lighter style and more anecdotal manner of Mrs. Pulszky only relieve the graver subjects and more serious manner of Mr. Pulszky. Together they have made, not a first-rate, but a reasonably good book, distinguished more by common sense and rational views than by very striking remarks or much original genius.

We have had, as Mr. Pulszky remarks in his preface, so many books on America recently published as to make the publication of another questionable; but, independently of the rapid growth of the States presenting continually new aspects, and speedily leaving all descriptions far behind, the English public will receive with pleasure a work on the subject by foreigners, who take their own views, and, in describing America, do not overlook what appears to them strange or unnamable in England. We do not purpose to break a lance with Mr. Pulszky in defence of our manners, nor to rectify some of his very obvious political errors derived from the state of society in which he has lived, rather than from a large appreciation of the history of mankind. We must merely inform our readers that he makes some remarks on our national character, and remind him that his errors—or, if he like the word better, his differences from the majority of the English—may suggest to him the reason why the cause he espouses does not appear quite so rational and elevated to them as to him and other political foreigners. We pass by all subjects of controversy to notice what appears to us peculiar and novel in the book. Passionately devoted to the generality of the Continental people are—particularly the Germans and the allied and kindred nations—to the fine arts, and especially music, the chief means amongst them of passing a life not otherwise very energetically employed, it is only natural that these travellers should detect in the Americans a great want of taste, and find them far behind in all that concerns the master art of passing life agreeably. That difference forms one great staple of the observations, both of the lady and the gentleman. In the eyes of the Continental people, devoted to amusement, and therefore, we fear, careless of liberty, and "oppressed by despots," America, like England, appears a land of sorrow and tribulation—though it be a land of freedom. The following extract from Mrs. Pulszky's diary will give the reader a clue to a great many remarks in the book, and bring before him the one conspicuous difference between it and the books of English authors descriptive of America:—

Sunday is here a day of prayers exclusively, not likewise of relaxation and enjoyment, and the Anglo-Saxon race has forgotten how to amuse itself with trifles. You find the merry old England now only in poetry. Since the time of Cromwell and his puritans the people have a gloomy cast, and the business habits of our age have destroyed the olden gay character of the race. A sprightly Englishman or American is an exception. The dance under the maypole, social music, and the deep feeling for the beauties of nature, so profoundly rooted in the German mind, are unknown to the American farmer. He toils hard, and does not know contentment, he always longs for more. Give to a Hungarian or a German a moderate income, just enough to maintain the family, a blue sky, a green meadow, a shady tree in summer, a comfortable stove, a song, and a chat in winter, and he does not care for all the riches of the world. The American restlessness is therefore tedious to the German emigrants, and especially their wives rarely feel comfortable in this steep-chase for fortune. A German lady who visited me here told me how her husband had come over with a handsome capital from Germany, how they lost it in a paper manufactory, and how they retrieved their property, first by keeping a school, and then by buying land, which since had risen above all their expectation. "Every German loses his money here," she said, "who enters into speculation. He is not sharp enough for the Americans. But every one of us prospers who buys land and works hard. But yet," continued she, "I hope not to die here—I long for the quiet, hearty life of Germany. Were it not oppressed by despots, and stripped of all freedom, we should have long ago returned. A poor man there has more enjoyment than the rich here. Nothing but the freedom of America makes life here supportable. Were Germany politically free, not one of us would cross the ocean to live amongst this joyless people."

Men who care not about the riches of the world, are likely to be careless about that freedom of locomotion, freedom of enterprise, and freedom of thought by which all these riches are to be gained. The Germans might learn from their own authors, who have told them that life is serious, *Ernst ist das Leben*, that nothing can be won and preserved—and certainly not freedom—without care and pains and labour. It seems likely, too, from the many noble improvements in the useful arts made in America, for which the Old World is already much its debtor, and from the fact that Italy was rich before she became celebrated in the fine arts, while her superiority in these did not continue after she lost her superiority in trade, that political freedom once achieved, and wealth once gained, a more refined taste in the arts, and a greater enjoyment of life will follow than can be found by the sheepskin-clad Hungarian or the waltz and stove-loving German. If the Germans and Hungarians have all they wish in a blue sky, a green meadow, a shady tree, a comfortable stove, a song and a chat, the Americans and the English want much more, and they get it. Many of the Americans themselves, not duly appreciating their situation, mourn, like Mrs. Pulszky, over "an eager anxious expression in the men, and care-worn looks in the women;" but it has ever been the lot of mankind to strive after something better than their present condition. The desire of improvement, the restlessness of which the sluggish and the torpid complain, is the great source of continued and progressive civilisation; and it betrays a want of knowledge of the history of mankind, and some local prejudice, to complain of that which is a permanent element of man's nature. The travellers may be right in the fact they notice, but it remains a question whether it should be mentioned with regret or rejoicing.

They discriminate more justly when they notice, as they frequently do, especially Mrs. Pulszky—and an American lady who corresponds with her, and whose letters are properly printed at the end of the work—the great deference that is shown to women in America. The statement is not exactly novel, but it forms a more prominent feature in the present book than in any other we have met with; even Miss Martineau has not seized this trait of American society so firmly as Mrs. Pulszky. The ladies are said to "rule in the States." "The American wishes that his wife should have no care." "The liberal expenditure" of the American women is supposed to be "shocking to the thrifty English woman." "They have all they like," and "the men even live in hotels to save them the trouble of housekeeping." "The women" are admitted "to be very extravagant in their dresses and furniture." Whatever may be the case in the backwoods, in the towns "the ladies are expected not to work," and "learn nothing of cooking, sewing, and washing." The men continually employed in the active business of life, and compelled to preserve a certain equality of appearance, seem to leave the expenditure of their incomes very much to the women, and to expend them very much for their gratification. In the towns they are, accordingly, the only idle classes, and as such classes in the old society of Europe are continually scheming something or other against their fellows, be it great plans of political restriction, to make society different from what nature has made it, or revolutions, or mere vulgar appropriations of property, in America it is the women who are the prey of "nervousness," who crave for artificial excitement; who, going as children into public life, become, as the French say, "*blase*" before they are out of their teens; who give encouragement to mesmerism and pietism, and all the other isms that now, to the astonishment of Europe, prevail in the United States. It is principally amongst the ladies that are found the "Media" for communicating with the world of spirits; and who, being doomed to idleness, suffer its penalties, and serve, either as dupes or agents, to inflict them, by the delusions they encourage, on the other sex. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Pulszky, like some English travellers, was taken in by these spirit manifestations; and the lady, not incorrectly, we are afraid, ascribes to this nervousness of idle women, and their pietistic and similar pursuits, the somewhat melancholy fact that "insanity prevails to the extent of 150 per cent more in the States than in Hungary." In no work have we seen the constrained idleness of women in the towns of America, and its consequences, so well portrayed as in this work of Mr. and Mrs. Pulszky.

Another circumstance which much interests our travellers is the general industry, so contrary to what prevails on the Continent. Not to work is looked upon as thoroughly degrading. "In the Old World physical labour is considered ungentlemanlike." But this is confined to the men, and they one and all labour continually and excessively. In the early ages of society, amongst all barbarous people, the women are doomed to excessive toil; the Americans will scarcely allow them to work: both extremes are wrong. Woman has her sphere of exertions in the natural order of society; and labour must be fairly divided between the sexes, as between all classes, for each to attain perfection. The American practice is not borrowed from their own early condition, in which, as now, on the frontiers of civilisation, the women cannot but

take their share in the family labour; it is an imitation of the aristocracies of Europe, and, for American society, is full of evil.

In Mr. Pulszky's part of the book there is much about colonization, about the physical configuration of the United States—"a limitless plain, intersected by countless navigable streams"—which determines, in a great measure, its political configuration, and makes it a common home for almost all the nations of the earth. The travellers accustomed to the variegated and often picturesque costume of the peasantry of Europe, are struck with the uniformity of the appearance of the multitude throughout the States. Greater variety of costume is often to be seen in a single village of the Continent of Europe than is to be met with in all the States. The reason is obvious: there, the fashions of European cities, which are everywhere now much alike, are adopted, and at once a uniformity of appearance is produced—the herald and symbol of that uniformity in rights and privileges, combined with an endless diversity of occupations, not to be found in Europe, except in England, which begins to prevail, and appears destined to prevail throughout "the limitless plain" that now opens its bosom to receive swarms from all nations.

A great deal of valuable information, collected from books, and the result of his own observation, is supplied by Mr. Pulszky, and the work does credit to the combined authorship, while it will be useful to the public. We cannot enter into the many questions discussed: but there is hardly one of present interest concerning the States but receives elucidation.

Kossuth's visit, which it describes, is already in its progress and its results known to our readers. In opposition to some journalists, Mr. Pulszky contends that it was eminently successful. For the evidence on this subject we must refer our readers to the book.

We will, in conclusion, quote a short passage, containing a little common but useful information, less as a specimen of the work than as suitable, from its dimensions, to our columns. The Americans are fond of titles, and delight in nicknames. Their great men are all nicknamed. Gen. Jackson was *Old Hickory*, Gen. Harrison *Old Tip*, Douglas, the Democratic senator, of Illinois—scarcely taller than Louis Blanc or M. Thiers, both remarkably small men—is the *Little Giant*; Gen. Cass, the senator of Michigan, the *Great Michigander*, and so on.

But not only the great men (says Mr. Pulszky), even the cities and the states have their nicknames. Washington, for instance, is the city of *Magnificent Distances*; New York, the *Empire City*; Philadelphia, the *Quaker City*; Baltimore, the *Monument City*; Boston, the *City of Notions*, or the *Puritan City*; New Haven, the *Elm City*; Buffalo, the *Queen City of the Lakes*; Pittsburgh, the *Iron City*; Cleveland, the *Forest City*; Cincinnati, *Porkopolis*, or the *Queen City of the West*; St. Louis, the *Mound City*; Louisville, the *Fall City*; New Orleans, the *Crescent City*; the State of New York, bearing in its arms the rising sun, with the motto, "Excelsior," is the *Empire or Excelsior State*; Connecticut, the *Free-Stone State*; Massachusetts, the *Bay State*; Vermont, the *Green Mountain State*; New Hampshire, the *Granite State*; Rhode Island, *Little Rhoda*; Pennsylvania, the *Keystone State*; Virginia, the *Old Dominion*, or the *Mother of States and Statesmen*; Delaware, the *Diamond State*; South Carolina, the *Palmetto State*; Texas, the *Lone Star State*; California, the *Golden Region*; Mississippi, the *Bayou State*; Louisiana, the *Creole State*; and Kentucky, the *Dark and Bloody Ground*. The inhabitants of Florida are *Cowboys*; those of Ohio are called *Buckeyes*; those of Iowa, *Harveyes*, those of Illinois, *Tuckers*; the Missourians call themselves *Pukes*; the Indiana people, *Hoosiers*; the Michiganians, *Wolverines* (Wolverines?); and Wisconsin, *Badgers*. All these nicknames are familiar to, and frequently used by the Americans, and not only in jest; in the same way as they collectively accept the designation of *Yankees*, if this word is used in contradistinction to *English*. In the States themselves the Southerners and the Westerners disclaim this appellation. They use it to designate the New Englanders; whilst in New England, again, every state disowns it except Connecticut, which is proud to be the original *Yankee State*.

THE COURT AND CABINETS OF GEORGE III. By the DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM and CHANDOS. Two volumes. Hurst and Blackett.

Seldom has it been our task to comment upon such a work as that now before us. In the volumes entitled "The Court and Cabinets of George III.," the Duke of Buckingham presents one of those rare and conscientious productions which are of inestimable value, alike to statesmen and to historical students of every nation. Valuable as were the letters which he has here given to the public, their utility and importance are enhanced by the calm, unprejudiced, and lucid form in which they are strung together. Eschewing alike all irrelevant matter, and all political bias, we have facts instead of argument; the noble author wisely eclipsing himself and his personal predilections, and leaving his readers to deduce their own conclusions from his straightforward and honest narrative. Such works have been a great desideratum in our historical literature hitherto; for it has too frequently happened that where documents, in themselves invaluable, have from time to time been rescued from the muniment-chests of noble families, they have been so overlaid with party spirit, and so weakened by erroneous and prejudiced comments, that, like a prophecy uttered after the occurrence of an event, they carry no authority with them, and fail to satisfy the mind.

The letters here given to the public extend over a period which can never cease to excite the most lively interest, as one of great and absorbing importance to England. Commencing in 1782, they are concluded in 1800; and many illustrious names consequently figure from the first page to the last of the correspondence. Pitt and Fox, Wellington and Wellesley, Sheridan and Burke, North and Thurlow, Wilberforce and Grattan, and a host of others, all of which are "familiar in our mouths as household words," as those of great and gifted men, inseparably linked with the history of their country; but it is not alone their names, or even their public actions, which are to be found recorded in the work before us. Each and all are here invested with an individuality which could have been produced through no other means than that of confidential correspondence; we see them once more "in their habits as they lived;" the graphic exhibition of personal character at once fascinates and convinces the mind; the hidden springs of action are laid bare; and more than one political problem is solved. The events of the times were as remarkable as the men who figured in them. The close of the war with America—the Coalition Ministry—the long and glorious Administration of Pitt—the Regency question, consequent upon the malady of the Sovereign—the French Revolution, the first seven years of the great European war which ensued upon that event; and, finally, the Irish Rebellion, and the Irish Union, are all comprised within the period over which these letters extend: nor do we hesitate to affirm that a new and remarkable light is thrown upon each event by their contents. The character of George III. was assuredly never so graphically portrayed: his firmness, his conscientiousness, his never-failing familiarity with public affairs, and his unwearied assiduity in public business, prove him to have been "every inch a king;" while even his failings detract no whit from the respect enforced by his virtues.

We could select a score of letters from the volumes before us which could not fail to command the interest of our readers; but, as our space compels us to forego this gratification, we must be content to lay before them such as have more particularly struck us: the first was written by the Marquis Wellesley (then Lord Mornington) to the Marquis of Buckingham, on his second appointment to the Viceroyalty of Ireland; and it appears to us to be singularly interesting, from the fact that it makes mention of the late lamented Duke of Wellington, then a youth of eighteen, "for the first time emerging from boyhood into that public life in which he was afterwards destined to act so conspicuous a part."

I sincerely wish you the same success in Ireland which attended your last government. Your only difficulty will be to maintain the high character which your administration bore in the minds of every description of people. You will certainly be received by the sanguine expectations of the whole country; and from my heart and soul I earnestly hope that you may return home with the same popularity and credit that you carry out. I must be lost to all feeling if I did not take the warmest interest in the honour and prosperity of your government, and if I did not acknowledge myself to be bound by the strongest ties of friendship and gratitude, to contribute everything within my power to promote its strength in any way in which you may call upon me.

You may well believe with what pleasure I received your appointment of my brother to a place in your family, not only as being a most kind mark of your regard for me, but as the greatest advantage to him. I am persuaded that, under your eye, he will not be exposed to any of those risks which in other times have accompanied the situation he will hold. I can assure you, sincerely, that he has every disposition which can render so young a boy deserving of your notice; and if he does not engage your protection by his conduct, I am much mistaken in his character. My mother expects him every hour in London, and before this time I should hope that he had himself waited on you. Once more, my dear Lord, before I close this part of my letter, let me thank you most warmly for this flattering instance of your friendship. Grenville, I hope, has shown you my letters, in which I declare that I would not have asked you for this favour, knowing your inclination to attend to my requests, and apprehending that you might suffer your regard for me to interfere to the prejudice of your government; but certainly this object for my brother was very near my heart, and I accept it with a gratitude proportioned to the anxiety with which I desired it, and to the most friendly manner in which it has been given.

And again, four days subsequently:—

I am sorry to find by a letter from my mother to-day, that her extreme anxiety to get my brother into your family induced her to make an application to you through Mr. Grenville on the subject; I have ready stated, that I never would have urged this point, though I accept the favour from you with the utmost gratitude. However, the eagerness which has led her to this step, affords a sufficient proof of the satisfaction which she must feel, in the very kind manner in which you had anticipated her wishes.

Nor is it less interesting to learn that the establishment of the young Arthur Wellesley, as one of the aides-de-camp of Lord Buckingham, was temporarily deferred by a proposal made by Sir George Yonge, then Secretary-at-War, to reduce the vice-regal aides-de-camp to half-pay—an indignity against which Lord Mornington instantly protested. On the 8th of January, he thus writes to the Lord-Lieutenant:—

Sir George Yonge had retreated into Devonshire before I received your letter, but I have ventured to disturb his retirement by an epistle of four sides of paper, to which I could not yet have received an answer. I cannot conceive what he can mean by this manoeuvre, because I cannot see any advantage to him in the reduction of any, or of all your aides-de-camp, to half-pay; and I am clearly of opinion that there is no argument which can be drawn in favour of the reduction of any, which will not equally apply to all. I do not exactly understand by the papers, which I received from you, what was the nature of his proposal with respect to the 9th and 10th companies. I have threatened that my brother shall join his regiment in India. This business is now very unfortunate to Arthur, as his men are now all raised, and he has concluded an agreement for an exchange, which only waits the mighty fiat of the Secretary-at-War. I fear he must wait for the decision of that great character; for I think, under the present circumstances, he cannot safely leave England. However, I hope the secretary will deign to temper his grandeur with a little common sense in the course of a few days, and then I will consign your aide-de-camp to you by the first mail-coach.

The bulk of the letters contained in these volumes are written, as might have been anticipated, by the Grenville family; and of these, incomparably the best, as regards both subject and style, are those of Mr. W. W. Grenville, of whose clear and dispassionate judgment and admirable feeling it is impossible not to bear record; but decidedly the most lively epistles in the work are those of Lord Bulkeley, whose graceful gossip affords most extraordinary glimpses alike of men and things.

In conclusion, we have only to return our best acknowledgments to the Duke of Buckingham for one of the most valuable and able contributions to our national history which has for a long period been given to the public.

A VISITATION OF THE SEATS AND ARMS OF THE NOBLES AND GENTLEMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN. By JOHN BERNARD BURKE, Esq. Vol. II. Hurst and Blackett.

No other country in the world but Great Britain could have yielded the materials for this work, which describes, in separate sections, the proper houses and homes of our noblemen and gentlemen; and their "fathers' worth," as pictured in the mysterious significations of middle age art. In the earliest ages we trace the conqueror in his castle-hold, and the holy man in his cell, alike embosomed in the nooks of the country. Poets have sung in rhapsody the praises of the country-seat; philosophers have meditated their subtle speculations amid their rural quiet; and heroes, covered with glory, have wooed, in peaceful contrast, their sweet shades; statesmen have sought amid their quiet, relief from the cares of public life; merchant-princes have retreated from the woes of wealth to their retirement; and even fashion has been glad to quit her painted pomp, and betake her recreant limbs to the pure delights of the country life. How many episodes in the history of our country date from her ancestral halls—by turns the scene of hospitality and strife, as the gentler or fiercer fortunes have predominated. How many of these pictures do the "Visitation" before us hold up. We start from Compton Park, in picturesque Wiltshire, the ancient seat of the Penruddocks, with its curious documents and relics, not forgetting the lace-trimmed night-cap which Sir John Penruddock wore when he was beheaded by warrant of Cromwell; nor the letter from Charles I., soliciting the loan of a hundred pounds: in the church hard by a tablet bears the obits of the family since 1598. Then we have Haigh-hall, Wigan, with its legend of Mab's Cross, which furnished Scott with his romance of "The Betrothed;" Netherby, Cumberland, rich in border story; Ramsay Abbey, Hunts, once the seat of Oliver Cromwell's family; Mount Edgecumbe, Devon, a place of picturesque celebrity; Wrest-park, Beds, for six centuries the seat of the De Greys, and noted for the number and excellence of its portraits: the house was designed by the present Earl. Next is Marple-hall, Chester, the seat of the Bradshaws; Bramhall, Hants, the fine Elizabethan mansion of the Zouches and Copes; Grimsthorpe Castle, Lincoln, the princely place of Lord Willoughby de Eresby, which has a tower of the age of Henry III; Belvoir, next to Windsor Castle, the noblest baronial residence in Britain, the glory of the Midlands, and whose delights have been sung from the Pindaric ode of 1690, to the stern verse of the poet Crabbe, who held the neighbouring living of Muston; Hardwick Hall, Derby, hung with ancient tapestry, and filled with Elizabethan furniture; the Lee, in Lanarkshire, with its Lee Penny tradition; Tamworth Castle, Warwickshire, and its Marmion romance; Moor Park, embattled by the magnificent churchman, Nevil, and the "sweetest place" Sir William Temple had ever seen; Audley End, the noble baronial hall of Lord Braybrooke, and retaining much of its early splendour; Harlaxton, Lincoln, a true picture of Elizabethan hospitality; Warwick Castle, and its feudal state; Acklam Hall, Yorkshire, celebrated in chronicle and ballad, from our eighth Henry; Calgarth Park, Westmoreland, planted by Bishop Watson; the princely domains of Knowsley and Blenheim; Farleigh House, the old seat of the Hungerfords; Leasowes Castle, where is preserved the oak paneling of the Star Chamber; Bolton Hall and Barnard Castle; Coham Hall and Knoke, with their popular antiquities; Bilton Grange, rebuilt by Pugin; Wynnstay and Buckhurst; Longleat and Woburn; Toddington, built by Lord Sudeley; Norbury, which gives name to the most picturesque vale in England; Goodrich Court, with its matchless armour; Staunton Harold, the noble hall of the Ferrers family, &c.

These and scores of other ancestral castles, halls, and "places," are comprised within the present volume, which is extremely rich in genealogical history and tradition, and traits of the picturesque past, through a long vista of conquest and civilisation, and enduring memorials of our national greatness.

BALLOONING. By B. E. WATKIN, Esq.

One of the most fascinating playthings of science is the Air-balloon; and one of the most absurd pastimes that take us from the working world is Ballooning. The objections are, however, ingeniously combated in the present brochure, which is by no means a long-winded story (as most aerial voyages have been); but is a very agreeable, rattling narrative, of some ten lightly-printed pages, as buoyant as the balloon itself. The writer was one of the party who ascended with "the veteran Green" in "the Royal Nassau," from Vauxhall, and alighted at Pirbright, seven miles from Guildford, as already illustrated in our pages. Perhaps the most characteristic passage in the present pamphlet is the following comparative estimate of the railway and the balloon:—

What machine, or what power, can be so cheap, so economical, in working? To draw a train containing 100 persons, would require an engine and tender worth £3000, and six or eight carriages and vans worth at least £2500, or, together, a capital in moving stock of between £5000 and £6000: plus workshops, spare engines and carriages, the railway itself, as a track, and all its ramified and expensive appliances; and the bare cost—minus interest or dividend to proprietors—of taking 100 passengers 1000 miles, would be, on the lowest scale of working, 2s. 6d. per mile, or £125 for the trip. On the other hand, the balloon costs £3000, with an equal capacity of conveyance to that obtained by the railway outlay of £5000 or £6000; it navigates the free air, and requires no tunnels, bridges, or "permanent way;" and while 60 miles an hour is the quickest limit of any railway travelling, the balloon, at "express speed," and before the wind, will skim along at the rate of 100 or 120 miles an hour. Then, again, every additional mile of railway travelling involves a further additional working cost; but the balloon once filled and once up in the air, travels along without the necessity for a constant reproduction of its power—without water, oil, or coke; and adds to the length of its aerial flight at the pleasure of the voyager, who has but to leave it on its course, or throw out his small bag of ballast—and the same gas which "did" the first 1000 miles, will do its thousands more, not certainly *ad infinitum*, but within the widest limit. But the difficulty remaining is the guidance of the machine when floating above the earth.

"Once," adds the writer, "let the balloon be considered as a commercial machine, and a less time than elapsed between the manufacture of Trevithick's first locomotive, in 1810, and the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, may show us the navigable balloon, and establish aerial navigation with both 'passengers and goods, as a new profession.'"

THE SOLITARY; OR, A LAY FROM THE WEST, with other Poems in English and Latin. By MARY BENN. Masters.

A small volume of verses, frequently elegant, and conceived in an eminently pious spirit. There are much thought and feeling in all the poems, which are highly creditable to the head as well as to the heart of the not unlearned authoress.

THE STANDARD PSALMIST. Edited by W. H. BIRCH. Part I. London: Hall, Virtue, and Co.

This work, even in the present age of cheapness, may be considered a marvel—thirty-two pages of music for less than as many halfpence; consisting of Church melodies "which breed devotion by their sacred tones," and these the best of this class of composition. They are very tastefully arranged, so that the work will, doubtless, become standard as a Church work, or for the family circle. The arrangement is for four voices, with an organ or pianoforte accompaniment. The typography, by Broadwater, of Amersham, is well executed.

THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS: A DOMESTIC NARRATIVE. By Mrs. J. R. GREER. Two vols. Saunders and Otley.

We had before occasion to remark on this lady's acerbity towards the sect of which she was once a member. She now treats of the peculiar doctrines of Quakerism, and arraigns George Fox and the apologist Barclay, for having been unprincipled and unorthodox men. To this extreme she goes in her desire to convert her former acquaintances or co-religionists to her present views. But she shows no perception of the philosophy involved in the subject, and merely writes with the feelings of a partisan controversialist. Her exposition is, accordingly, of little value.

LOVE IN THE MOON. By Patrick Scott, Author of "Lelio." Walton and Maberley.

This is a racy poem—like a hedgehog, all points; and full of erudition, notwithstanding its eccentric title. Thus, we have a learned dissertation upon the inconstant luminary, and the part she plays in the mythology of nations. The poem itself reminds one of the sublime flights of Shelley, and the erratic muse of Byron.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE MONTH.

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LONGCHAMPS, 1853.—FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

The cold weather has increased; and Longchamps, which held out high expectations of new fashions, as usual in preceding years, has not proved very productive. We are waiting patiently for warmer weather. Meanwhile, the shops make a fine show of the shapes and materials.

For bonnets the shape is still very wide round the cheeks to make room for the puffed *bandeaux*; they are ornamented in the lower part so as to fill up the space with a large tuft of flowers and ribbons, mixed with net or blonde lace.

A novelty has just appeared in plaid ribbon, of bright and lively colours for bonnets, which for some years past were trimmed with plain ribbon.

Dresses are all worn *à basquines*, or small shirts. The toilets continue very rich; and, what is worthy of remark, the young persons alone adhere to simplicity; the ornaments increasing with the years of the wearer. Taffetas dresses are most worn; tulle being the only real transition material between the heavy winter dresses and the light costumes for the approaching season.

beautiful materials: it is worn embroidered with a running pattern of scattered flowers; but oftener with spots of various shades of silk, or gold, silver, &c. Flounces are worn from two to five in number,

round the edge with a wide silk braid and cords; and on which are scattered large spots of velvet, woven in. Scotch popeline dress, with body skirted.

No. 3. Taffetas Capote, with flowers. Plain Repe dress, with for large ribbons of velvet shade to match the dress. Gros-vert, blue or nacaat, laid on flat. Shawl Stella of cachmere, with edging of lively colours, and bouquets sprinkled over the plain ground; and a small fringe to match the colours of the embroidery.

Boy.—Sailor's hat, with long ribbons; velvet jacket, green or black, with a velvet ribbon round it; puffed shirt; velvet trousers to match the jacket; and beneath, a small pair of cambric trousers, embroidered English fashion: the difference from last year consisting in the trousers being longer, the under one only showing the embroidery. Patent leather shoes, with buckle of black silk ribbon.

Girl.—Taffetas bonnet, trimmed with two bows, with long falling ends, and joining the curtain. Taffetas dress; body with skirts, and trimmed, as well as the petticoat, with velvet braid, simple pattern the width of the braid being proportioned to the age of the child; cambric trousers, ended with a frilled flounce, and trimmed with a very narrow Valenciennes lace. Very rich blush velvet mantle, with tambour embroidery in silk of the same shade, assimilating to the Greek jacket; false hood, trimmed with a ribbon bearing the same embroidery; the edge of the hood has embroidery with large dents, which support a

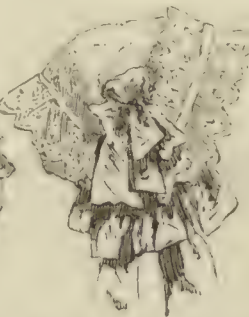
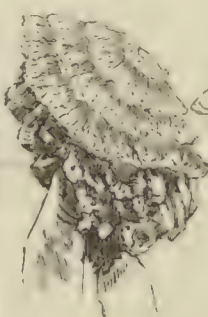
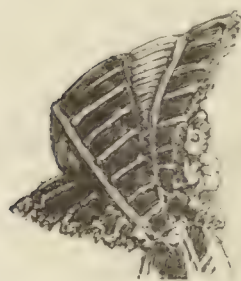


For balls, organdis, net, crape, gauze, are most worn. The bodies are of course without *basquines*, which are only for walking dresses. The waists, after having for a short time been worn round with long and

rarely more. For in-doors we have dressing-gowns of Scotch cashmere merino, printed with very delicately-coloured patterns. The ground is China rose, water green, pear; grey, and a new shade called pure violet,

fringe of silk, all over the mantelet, making a kind of pelisse, of which the folds are indicated and formed by the gatherings.

Various bonnets of different shapes and trimmings of velvet taffetas,



wide ribbons, have returned to the usual point, preserving the long ribbon or sash. The fear of short waists has altogether vanished; thanks to the good taste of the Empress of the French, whose dictum fashion would of course have followed. Chambray gauze is a

which is between violet and lilac. The printing is made of very lively shades, running all over the material, or an imitation of flounces parted by the plain ground of the dress.

flowers, ribbons, and feathers; theatre cap, snail-shaped, with flowers and velvet.

Morning cap of embroidered muslin, with delicately-coloured silk ribbons.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

No. 1. Taffetas Bonnet, trimmed with flowers in bunches on each side. Poulx de Soie mantelet and dress; the edge of the mantelet embroidered with silk of the same shade all round, and on the breast with tambour



embroidery; the dress, with three flounces, is bound to match the mantelet, and is of the same pattern; belt with two long falling ends; pagoda sleeves, also embroidered round the edges with a simple under-sleeve of cambric muslin, closed at the wrist by an embroidered cuff.

No. 2. Velvet Bonnet, with a loose crown, and a bunch of flowers; and trimmed also inside with flowers under the front—violet and pink, with velvet foliage. Mantelet *casaque* of black velvet, trimmed plainly

THE BAILEY MEMORIAL.

THIS interesting monument to the memory of the late Joseph Bailey, Esq., M.P., originated with a public meeting held at the City Arms Hotel in Hereford, in the spring of 1851; when, after discussion of several propositions for the appropriation of the fund already raised for the purpose, it was determined that an altar-screen, in accordance with a design then exhibited by Mr. N. J. Cottingham, architect, should be erected in Hereford Cathedral, with a suitable inscription; and at a subsequent meeting of the committee appointed to carry this work into effect, it was resolved that, in addition, a marble bust of the deceased by Mr. J. Evan Thomas, sculptor, should be placed at the rear of the screen, within the ambulatory of the Ladye Chapel. The entire undertaking has been completed in accordance with the above plan.

The screen is erected at the eastern end of the choir, across the great Norman arch. The entire work has been carried out from the drawings and models, and under the direction, of Mr. Nockalls J. Cottingham, architect, 6, Argyll-place, London, by W. Boulton, architectural carver, Bridge-road, Lambeth.

The Bust (which we have engraved) is a fine work of art and an excellent likeness: it is placed at the rear of the screen on a massive pedestal of polished granite, with the following inscription, and is the work of Mr. J. Evan Thomas, sculptor, 7, Lower Belgrave-place, Pimlico.

To perpetuate the memory of JOSEPH BAILEY, JUNIOR, Esq., son of Sir Joseph Bailey, Bart., M.P. (for more than nine years representative of this county in the House of Commons), this bust and altar-screen are erected in the cathedral which his piety assisted to restore, not only by those united to him by the ties of kindred or private friendship, but by a general and voluntary subscription of the many, who knew and appreciated his worth. For the great benevolence of his disposition and courtesy of his manners, he was universally beloved. For the sound judgment, the strict integrity, and the active energy, manifested in the many and arduous duties of his station, he was valued and admired. Firmly relying on the merits of his Redeemer, his fortitude unshaken by the pressure of a lingering and complicated disease, he was removed out of this world the 31st day of August, 1850, in the 39th year of his age. Wife, children, father, brothers, friends, his county, deplore their loss.

It had been hoped, that the subscription would have been adequate to filling with painted glass the two side-lights of the eastern triplet of the choir, thus completing this end of the church; the sum at the disposal of the committee was, however, insufficient for this purpose.

It is impossible to conclude without adding an earnest appeal to all who may visit this grand old cathedral church, for their assistance, in however small degree it may be in their power to offer it, towards the resumption of the works, which have now been for some time wholly suspended.

VENUS DEFENDING A NYMPH FROM A FAUN.
BY FRANCA VILLA.

EARLY in the present year we gave some account of several pieces of sculpture, which had been recently discovered in a secluded part of Windsor Great Park, and gave Engravings of three of them. We now give a representation of another of them, being a group, supposed to represent Venus defending a nymph from a faun. In common with all the rest of the works so discovered (one alone excepted, which is antique), it is from the hand of the Flemish artist Franco-Ville—Italianised, as Franca-Villa—of whom we have already given some account. The scale of the group is colossal; the figure of Venus being not less than nine feet high. It is conceived in a masterly style; the action of the goddess being full of grace and life. The figure, however, is exaggerated in height when judged by comparison with the proportions of the head—a fashion which began to prevail at the latter period of this artist's career. The figure of the faun is vigorous in design, and the anatomical details admirably executed; that of the nymph looking up imploringly at the goddess, is highly expressive of the incident supposed to be represented. This group, which was mutilated in parts, has been successfully restored by Mr. Thornycroft.

SUIT OF GREEK ARMOUR.

A VERY interesting addition has recently been made to the admirable collection in the Tower of London, in the suit of Ancient Greek Armour, which, it will be recollected, was purchased a few weeks since. It was found in a tomb at Cuma; and consists of a helmet; breast-plate, with embossed head of Medusa and other ornaments; back-plate; neck-plate, embossed with comic mask; belt, knee-pieces, greaves, and ankle-pieces; and with the suit was found a spear-head, and dagger with case. This armour is in the finest preservation, and of the utmost rarity. The extraordinary formation of the helmet, which is winged, and has the spiral for holding the waving plume of the wearer, would lead one to suppose him to have been an eminent soldier, who had distinguished himself by great achievements in the field, and rendered himself worthy of an heroic age.

NOMENCLATURE OF
THE RUSSIAN CHESSMEN.

BY C. F. DE JAEENISCH,

CONSEILLOR OF THE IMPERIAL COURT OF RUSSIA.

THERE has been much discussion as to the origin of the game of Chess, and the modifications to which it has been subjected by the lapse of time. It is now acknowledged that the best means to dissipate the obscurity which envelopes this subject, consists in the philological analysis of the terms of this game used among the different nations, and in the examination of the rules to which they submit in playing. We shall not repeat here all the results of this research; it will be sufficient to mention that we now know—1st, that this noble game is of Indian-Persian origin; 2nd, that it was unknown to Grecian-Roman antiquity; 3rd, that it was the Arabians who, in the course of their conquests, introduced it into Spain and Sicily, whence it spread into Italy, France, England, and Germany; 4th, that in Europe it has experienced many important changes in the terms, as well as in the rules of the game.

These results, though very accurate, being principally drawn from certain linguistic and historical data, it would surely be extremely interesting to confirm by the witness of a nation which should have received the game of Chess, not of the Spaniards and Italians (who themselves only received it through the medium of the Arabians), but directly from East India—Persia itself. This nation is the Russian or Muscovite, which, in the almost complete state of isolation in which it remained during several ages, after its conquest by the Moguls (and even a century before), up to the time of Peter the Great, could only learn the game of Chess from its ancient conquerors*, who themselves learnt it from the Persians.

* The Moguls, like all the Orientals, were very assiduous in Chess. It is known that the celebrated Tamerlane excelled in this game.

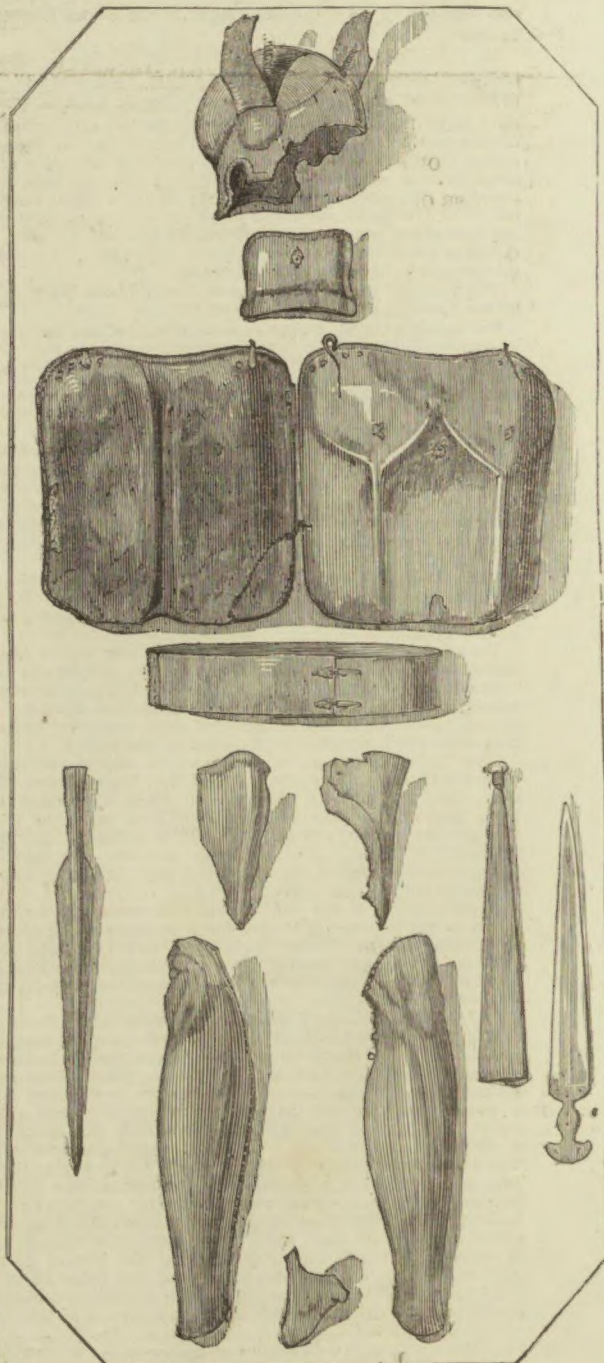


MEMORIAL BUST OF JOSEPH BAILEY, JUN., ESQ., BY J. EVAN THOMAS, LATELY PLACED IN HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.

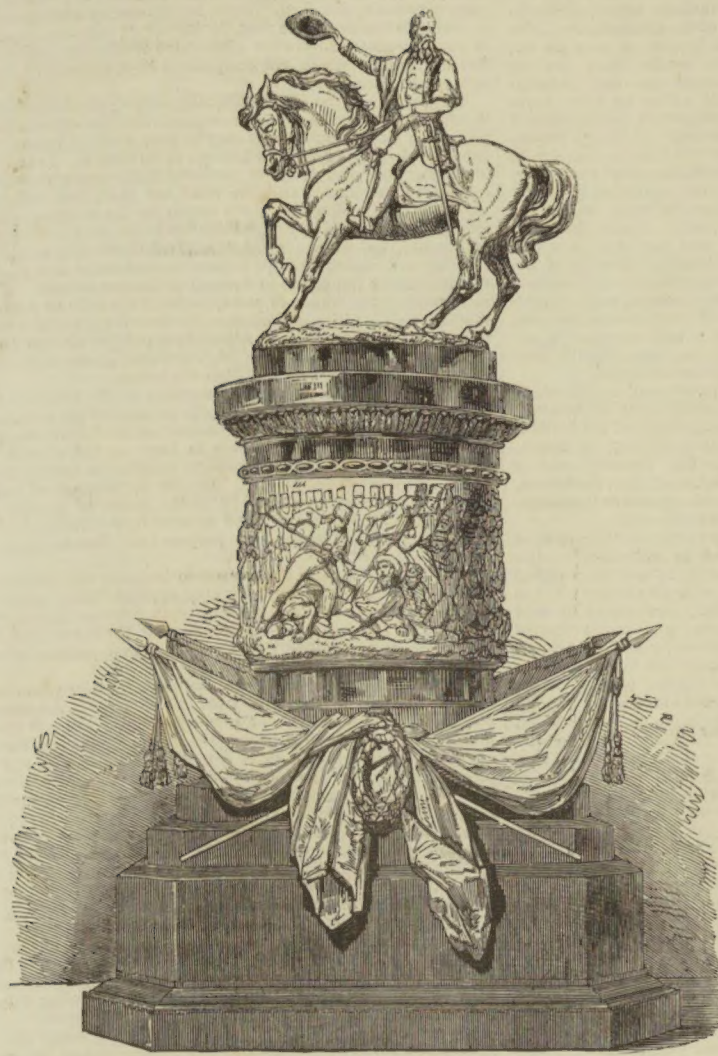
It has never been doubted that Chess was already played in Russia during the interval of time of which we have just spoken. We shall, therefore, only cite one historical testimony from a hundred, it is that of Czar John the Terrible, playing a game of Chess with one of his favourites, at the moment of being struck with apoplexy. This happened in 1584 (see the "History of Russia" by Karamsine).

Besides, were there not any historical proof, any public notoriety, philology is there with its clear and incontestable facts to dissipate the least doubts which might exist. As the Russian language is so little studied in the west of Europe, all that I am going to cite must be nearly new and unexpected to the readers of this journal.

We know the very extraordinary etymology of the Queen of the game of Chess, an etymology which has only latterly been clearly made out. From the primitive Persian word *ferz* (corresponding to the Turkish *vizier*), which means the commander-in-chief of the army, the ancient French have first made *fierce*, then *ferche*, then *vierge*, which they afterwards replaced by the Queen. In the same manner the Italians, the Germans—and, in imitation of them, all the Western nations—have taken the *ferz* for a virgin or Queen. Well, how do you think this piece is called in Russian? It is called precisely *ferz*; a word which in the language of the country signifies nothing at all; so that the Russians who are not linguists (that is to say the greater number) are absolutely undecided as to the gender of this substantive, and decline it sometimes with the mas-



SUIT OF GREEK ARMOUR, JUST ADDED TO THE TOWER COLLECTION.

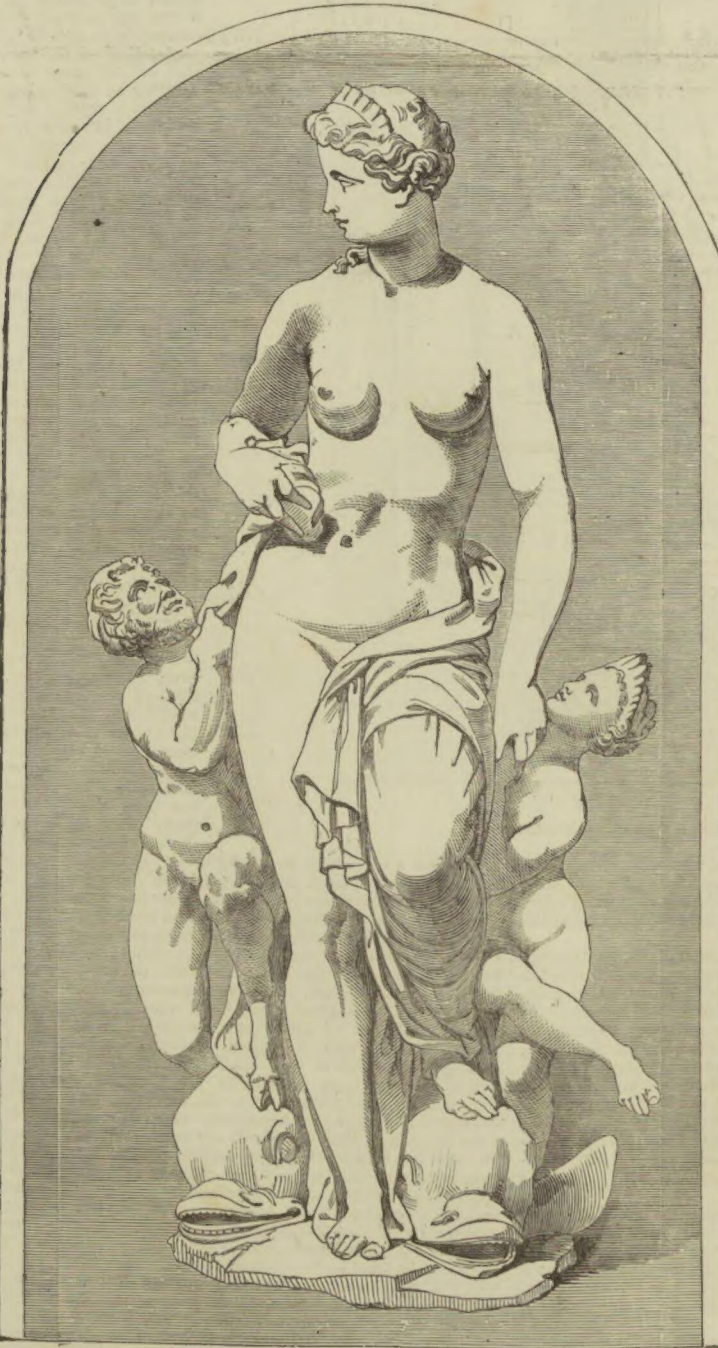


TESTIMONIAL PRESENTED BY GENERAL SIR C. J. NAPIER TO HIS BROTHER OFFICERS.

THE NAPIER TESTIMONIAL.

THIS very handsome group of plate has been executed for the hero of Scinde by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell. Its appropriation is thus narrated in the inscription:—

Presented by General Sir C. J. Napier, Commander-in-Chief in India, Colonel of the 22nd Regiment, to his brother officers, as a mark of his friendship, and in commemoration of the conquest of Scinde, resulting from two great victories—Meeanee and Hyderabad—in which H.M. 22nd was the only European regiment. Bravely it led into battle; courageously was it followed by the native troops. Dugshar, 1850.



MARBLE GROUP FOUND IN WINDSOR GREAT PARK.—"VENUS DEFENDING A NYMPH FROM A FAUN."

culine, sometimes with the feminine, preoccupied as they are with the idea of the Queen. Is any more striking proof needed as to the origin of the game? Besides the interpellation *schakh*, which signifies Chess in Russian as in German, is it not directly addressed to the Persian King, *Schakh*?

Here follows a philological datum quite as striking. We know that from the Arabian *alfil* (at is the article), which means the elephant, the Italians have made *alfiere*, and the French *le fil*, then *le fol*. Well! how is this piece named in Russian? Precisely *alfiere*, the elephant. Certainly these denominations cannot be borrowed from the West.

The King is called *tsar* (King), as it ought to be. The Knight, *kogne*, which signifies crouser, horse. The pawn, *piechka*, a characteristic denomination, and appropriated exclusively to this single object; it means merely a little infantry soldier.

That which is very singular is the name of the Castle—it is called *ladia* (vessel). This denomination can only proceed from a mistake. The ancient Russians must have taken for vessels the figures of war chariots, constructed nearly in the form of vessels. But it is especially necessary to remark that these denominations are ancient—that not one of them indeed is modern. The Russian Monarch has not for a long time been called *Czar*, he is called *Emperor*; the Knight is no longer called *kogne*, but *lechad*; the vessel is no longer called *ladia*, but *korabl*; the preceding denominations only existing in the written language, and not in the spoken language. In a word, *ferz* and *piechka*, as we have said, signify nothing out of the region of the game of Chess. Here is a manifest proof of the antiquity of Chess in Russia, for these denominations of the pieces can only have been invented at a period when they were still in use in the spoken language.

We know that since Peter the Great, the manners, the customs, the language even, of foreigners, have invaded Russia. Chess has felt their influence. At first the foreigners have aspired to change the name of the pieces, and some modern Russians, little scrupulous, have imitated them. From *tsar* they have tried to make *korol*, which is only applied in Russia to the Kings of western Europe. From *ferz*, the General, they have tried to make *korolena*, a Queen of western Europe (German, French, English, &c.). From ship (*ladia*) they have made a castle (*bachnia*). Some have pushed their audacity so far as to name the Bishop or fool, Elephant (*dowrak*); but all Russians who attach any value to the purity of their language, as well as the preservation of what is good in their ancient customs, agree in repelling these foreign innovations. In truth, if the Russians have any need to envy the Western nations, it is certainly not for having turned the general of their Chess army into a virgin, or a Queen!

In the mean time, if the national denominations were preserved, the rules at least of the West prevailed in Russia. We feel sure from reading ancient authors—for example, Lopez—that the Castle, at any rate the manner of casting as it is now practised, did not anciently exist. Besides the Turks, the Persians, the Georgians (and there are players of the first strength in Georgia, where the nobility made a special study of the game) do not Castle up to the present time. Do we wish for a philological but sure proof, that up to Peter the Great they did not Castle in Russia? How is Casting called in Russia? *Rokirovat*, a word which has neither a grammatical Russian form nor root, and which is directly taken from the German *rochiren*. The Russians have, besides, borrowed their laws from the Germans, their masters also in the military art. Thus, the latter not permitting the plurality of the Queen, the Russians have imitated them, and we must, to have a new one, absolutely wait till we are widowers of the first. A small number only of amateurs of the St. Petersburg Club, having felt how much more natural and equitable the French and English laws are in this respect, have abolished (for themselves, indeed) this hard and unjust German usage.

Science.

ERICSSON'S CALORIC-ENGINE.

ON Friday, the 18th ult., Mr. George Crispe, Engineer to the Polytechnic Institution, delivered, at the United Service Institution, in Scotland-yard, a lecture explanatory of the principle and application of the Caloric-Engine, invented by Mr. Ericsson, of New York. Lord Radstock presided. The attendance was very numerous; and among the company were Admiral Sir Charles Adam, Admiral Sir Charles Napier, Gen. de la Motte, Gen. Goldfinch, Gen. Fanshawe, Gen. Sir George Pollock, several officers and engineers from the Royal Dockyard, &c.

Of the vessel, which has been built at New York, and fitted with the Ericsson Caloric-Engine, an Engraving and popular description appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Jan. 22; and our present object is, by aid of the above paper, to explain the Engine still more in detail.

Mr. Crispe commenced by observing that, in a lecture upon a philosophical subject, when all are agreed upon the correctness of the data to be adduced, the duty of the lecturer becomes a comparatively simple one; he having merely to arrange his subject in a consecutive form, and employ such experiments as serve to illustrate it. In the present instance, Mr. Crispe stated that he felt placed in somewhat unusual circumstances, inasmuch as Ericsson's Caloric-Engine has been constructed, tested, and reported upon in America; and men whose integrity ought not to be questioned, and whose judgment we have no right to impeach, say that it performs its duty admirably; that the quantity of fuel required is exceedingly small; in short, that it may, altogether, be considered as a highly-successful experiment.

The Secretary of the United States Navy, in his letter to the Committee, speaking of the ship *Ericsson*, says:—

She has been already visited by many officers of the Government, and by persons skilled in the nature of machinery, and has elicited the most favourable opinions of those best capable of forming a judgment upon her qualities. I feel myself authorised to say, that the approbation these visits have excited, is of such a character as to leave no room to doubt the complete success of the inventor in the splendid enterprise to which he has so long and so assiduously addressed himself.

The letter concludes by recommending the construction of a vessel of war, of not less than 2000 tons burthen, fitted with caloric-engines.

Commander Sands, who made a trip in the vessel from New York to Alexandria, U.S., speaks of the perfect performance of the engines during a voyage of seventy-three hours' duration; and also of but one stoker being required on duty at a time, in consequence of the small quantity of fuel required to work them.

Upon this side of the Atlantic, on the other hand, men who are known not only to England but to the world, contend that the invention is a fallacy, a delusion, and that no useful result can possibly be achieved by such means.

The name which has been adopted for this new motive power at once indicates that heat is the primary agent employed; this word "Caloric"—derived from the Latin, *calor*—having been introduced by Lavoisier, to designate what he termed the element of heat. In fact he looked upon caloric as the cause of heat, much in the same way that electricity is regarded as the cause of magnetism.

That atmospheric air, when heated, is capable of producing a mechanical effect, is a fact which has been known for centuries. But, passing over the toys of Hero, the wheel of Amon-tous, and the engine of Mr. Hale, we come to that of Sir George Cayley, an account of which is published in "Nicholson's Journal," of 1807. The similarity between this and Ericsson's is remarkable; indeed, in a general way, the two may be considered as the same.

A modification of this most ingenious arrangement (for we must not forget in our estimate of it that it was perfectly novel) was eventually constructed by Sir George Cayley, and tested by Mr. Goldsworthy Gurney, Mr. George Kennie, &c.; and was shown to be doing a duty equal to 5-horse power, with a consumption of about twenty-one pounds of coke per hour.

In 1817, Mr. Stirling, of Glasgow, took out a patent for an air-engine differing in all important particulars from the one just described. This machine resembles the steam-engine in the construction and arrangement of many of its parts, such as the cylinder, piston, piston-rod, parallel motion, beam, crank, &c. In it motion is obtained by heating a portion of the air in communication with one side of the piston, and cooling that in connection with the other, by which a difference of pressure is obtained upon alternate sides of it. The heating and cooling of the air are effected by having the air-chambers, one of which is connected with the top, and the other with the bottom of the cylinder, fixed respectively over two fires, by which their lower ends are kept at a temperature of about 600 degrees, whilst their upper parts are kept cool; the air, by the aid of a plunger, being made to occupy the top in one chamber, and the bottom in the other, alternately. Mr. Stirling also introduced and patented at the time, what has been called, in connection with Ericsson's engine, the "regenerator;" the object of which is to save a portion of that heat which

would otherwise be lost in cooling the air at each stroke of the engine: it consists of a series of laminae of metal, between which the heated air has to pass in its progress from the bottom to the top of the air-chamber. The metallic surfaces become in consequence heated by contact with the air, which heat they retain until the air in its return from the top to the bottom in its cool state has to make its way through them, in the opposite direction; by which it takes up from them the heat which they just received; and in proportion to the amount of heat kept back, by these means, is the saving of fuel effected. An engine of the kind described was erected at the Dundee foundry in 1843, and continued to do the work of the establishment for about four years. Mr. Stirling states that the new steam-engine, which has been substituted for the air-engine, is using about 26 cwt. of coals, whilst the air-engine did the same work with about 4½ cwt. Under these circumstances, it may naturally be asked, why was not the air-engine retained? The answer given is one which, in estimating the value of Mr. Ericsson's, will afford an important datum, viz., the difficulty of preventing the burning out of the air chambers. This inconvenience, coupled with the cheapness of fuel in the district, was considered a sufficient inducement to abandon its employment; but Mr. Stirling is still engaged in endeavouring to solve this problem, and we can but hope, that he may eventually be successful.

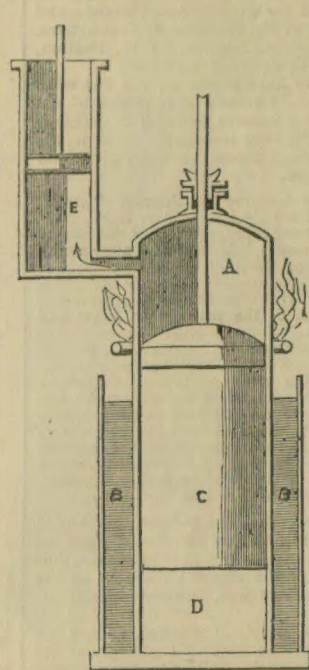


FIG. 1.—PARKINSON'S ENGINE.

The rapidity with which the model exhibited works is worthy of remark. It is usually kept down to about 150 strokes per minute, although there seems no reason to doubt that it would make 1500 if the experiment were ventured on. It is instructive, because we see by it how rapidly air may be heated and cooled. In 1826, one year prior to

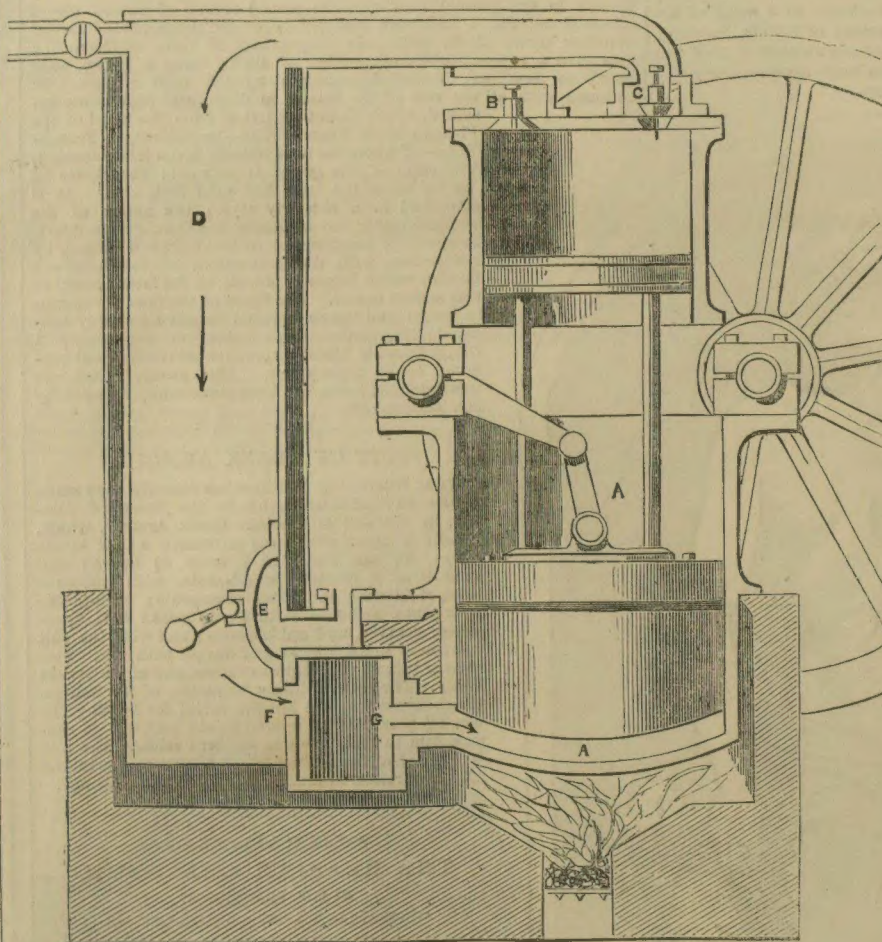


FIG. 2.—ERICSSON'S CALORIC-ENGINE.

the sealing of the last patent, Captain Ericsson, who is a native of the province of Vermeland, in Sweden, came to England for the purpose of propagating an air-engine, which he had invented; but, after using every exertion, the difficulties were found to be at the time too great, and the project was soon abandoned.

The general construction of the modern caloric-engine may be gathered from the diagram, Fig. 2. A is the working cylinder, beneath which a fire is made to elevate the temperature of the air within it. Under the piston of this cylinder a vessel is fixed and filled with non-conducting materials, called the heat-interceptor; its office being to prevent the heated air from coming in contact with the main body of the piston, and thus to keep it cool—an expedient which was adopted by Sir George Cayley for the same purpose, in connection with his air-engine, and patented by him in 1838. Inverted above the working cylinder is the air-pump, or supply cylinder, with its piston and valves, B C—air being taken in through B from the atmosphere, and discharged through C into the receiver D. At the lower end of this receiver is an opening, communicating with the working cylinder, which, by the slide-valve E, may be closed at pleasure.

It should here be noticed that when the slide-valve is closed to prevent a communication between the receiver and the working cylinder, it, at the same time, opens a communication between the working cylinder and the atmosphere under the valve, and through the opening F. G is the regenerator, consisting of a number of layers of wire gauze, through which the air has to pass, both in its entrance to, and exit from, the cylinder.

The *modus operandi* of the engine is this: The engineer, having seen to the lighting of the fires, permits the temperature of the lower part of the cylinder and the parts adjacent to reach a temperature of 540°; then closing the slide-valve E, he proceeds to pump atmospheric air

into the receiver by hand, until it has attained a pressure of some few pounds to the square inch. These arrangements completed, everything is ready for starting. He now, by the aid of such hand-gear as is usual in steam-engines, throws the slide-valve E into the position shown in the diagram, by which the compressed air is allowed to make its way into the working cylinder.

We have now arrived at the difficulty over which nine out of ten stumble in examining the action of this engine, viz., the office which the heat performs; but, probably, this may be best avoided by supposing for the time that heat has nothing whatever to do with it. Let us imagine, for instance, that everything is perfectly cold—regenerator, fire, supply-cylinder, all removed: still, we shall see that, upon opening the slide-valve (as before described), the piston in the working cylinder will be elevated; when it has reached the top of its stroke, let the slide-valve be closed; no more air can then enter, and that already within the cylinder will make its escape under the slide-valve into the atmosphere, and thus allow the piston to descend of its own weight. When it once more reaches the bottom of the cylinder, if the slide be again opened, we shall have a repetition of the action just described; and this may evidently be repeated as long as the necessary supply of air can be maintained in the receiver, precisely as a high-pressure steam-engine continues to work whilst steam is supplied from the boiler.

But, since as much air must be supplied to the receiver at each stroke of the engine as the working cylinder removes, if the air in that cylinder were of the same temperature as the air supplied to the receiver, a pump must be employed for the purpose as large as the cylinder itself; and more power would, in consequence, be required to work it than the compressed air could possibly give. By the application of heat, however, every cubic foot of air forced in by the pump is doubled in volume; consequently, the power required to work it is reduced, because a pump of smaller size answers the same purpose; and thus a surplus of available power is obtained.

The office of the heat, then, is not to increase the pressure of the air when once it has entered the working cylinder (this, under the circumstances, it cannot do); but, in reality, to increase its volume with the elevation of the large piston, thus making the same quantity of air fill double the space, and yet keep up the original pressure of the cold air pumped into the receiver D.

One important feature in the contrivance remains yet to be spoken of, viz., the regenerator, shown at G in the diagram. As before stated, it consists of a series of layers of iron wire-gauze, through the meshes of which the heated air in its passage from the cylinder to the atmosphere has to pass; and which, as it comes in contact with each successive layer, parts with more and more of its heat, until, before it leaves the last, it is said that it is not more than about 30 or 40 deg. hotter than the atmosphere itself. The heat left by the escaping air we may suppose to be distributed in the regenerator in the manner indicated by the diagram—viz., next the cylinder the temperature is almost equal to that of the air within, whilst next the slide-valve it is said to be but little above that of the external air.

The heat taken up by the regenerator is retained by it until, the piston having reached the bottom of the cylinder, a fresh supply of air is allowed to enter it from the receiver; this cold air in its passage through the regenerator becomes heated, as the escaping air became cooled, by contact with the metal surfaces, and, consequently, enters the cylinder with its temperature considerably elevated, requiring in consequence so much less heat to be imparted by the fuel employed.

In this country, however, it is contended by many that the action cannot be such as stated, and that the regenerator can make no difference to the amount of fuel employed. It is to be regretted that those who take this view do not offer any philosophical reason for it, because, when once it is fairly shown that there is some natural law opposed to it, the question is settled, and much valuable time and money saved. In the absence of this the question may be examined *pro* and *con*, as it is presented to us. The air in the cylinder has a temperature of say 540 deg., i.e., about 480 degrees above that of the atmosphere—at which tempera-

ture its original volume is, according to Dulong and Petit, doubled; upon escaping into the atmosphere, through the regenerator, from the fact of its having been employed in the cylinder under pressure, it expands, and in so doing takes up a certain amount of heat in the latent form (about 8 deg. for every one pound of pressure). For instance, if the air in the cylinder have a temperature of 540 deg., and a pressure of 5 lb. per inch above that of the atmosphere, upon expanding to the pressure of the atmosphere, it will exhibit a temperature of 500 deg. only, the 40 deg. having become latent. Now, since the air cannot, by contact with the metallic surfaces, make them hotter than itself, it will at once appear that these 40 deg. of heat are lost to us, but the 500 deg. remaining is tangible heat; which, for comparison, may be likened to that of hot iron—heat which can be measured by a thermometer, and which will pass from one body to another by contact. If then the layers of wire gauze through which the air has to pass be of a low temperature, this air will assuredly pass out from it at a lower temperature than it entered it. And it cannot be doubted that, if cold air be made to pass through the hot gauze, its temperature will be raised, and that so much heat as it receives in this way, so much less will the fuel have to give. In reference to either the quantity or pressure of the air in the cylinder it will be seen that it makes no difference whatever whether it be heated by the regenerator or the bottom plates of the cylinder itself. The question may arise, however, whether the air, in passing through the gauze at the rate of twelve feet per second, has time to yield up or take up the heat in any quantity: in reference to this, the rapidity with which the air is heated and cooled in Parkinson's engine has been already referred to, and many other examples of a similar character are familiar to us.

But an experiment is by far more satisfactory than argument: either this contrivance does its work, or those who are engaged upon the vessel in America are exceedingly clever tricksters.

The practical objections to the general arrangement of the engine are many, and of such a character that, even supposing all others to be removed, will doubtless prove fatal to its ultimate success. For instance, the theoretical effect due to the air in this engine—supposing it to make ten strokes per minute, and its volume to be doubled by heat—is 763-horse power. Its actual effect in the working cylinder equals 600-horse power; and out of this, 374-horse power is required to work the pump, leaving only 226-horse power, or less than one-third of that power which is due to the air, available. Again, from the fact of the pressure obtainable being small, and operating upon one side of the piston only, it becomes necessary to have an enormous extent of piston surface. In the *Ericsson*, for instance, four engines, such as that described, are employed with working cylinders fourteen feet in diameter; also four air-pumps, or supply-cylinders, each between eleven and twelve feet in diameter, creating a vast amount of friction and liability to leakage; and in a case, be it remarked, where leakage is of the utmost importance to us. We cannot do here as we do in a steam-engine—push on the fires to overcome the difficulty—as such a proceeding, carried beyond a certain point, would evidently be fatal to the heating-vessels. We should not forget either that Mr. Stirling was compelled to abandon his engine from the difficulty he experienced in preserving his air-vessels. The plan which Captain Ericsson at present employs for heating them, is the same as that which Mr. Stirling commenced with thirty years since, and which he afterwards greatly improved upon, and yet failed. There seems no reason to believe, therefore, that, by the present arrangement, Captain Ericsson can be more fortunate than his predecessor.

* *Piechka* only has passed into a figurative or proverbial phrase. To design men they do not hesitate to sacrifice, whom they look upon as instruments to be thrown aside when they no longer need them, they say in Russian—to play with them as with pawns. A new proof of the antiquity of the word *piechka*, for the proverbial phrases of a language are never composed but from ancient words.

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